

THE GATEWAY

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City council considers LRT expansion options

DEREK SCHUTZ
News Staff

City councillors heard from business owners, developers, and residents at a public hearing on Monday at City Hall regarding two proposed Light Rail Transit routes in west and southeast Edmonton.

The additions would eventually complement the LRT's south expansion to Southgate and Century Park that will open in April 2010.

The new proposed routes were met with both opposition and support in a hearing meant to give citizens a chance to speak directly to councillors. Much of the discussion focused on the proposed west-end route, which would start west of 200 Street in Lewis Estates, stopping at West Edmonton Mall, and following Stony Plain Road on its way to downtown.

Some citizens voiced their support for alternate routes which would travel from Lewis Estates to the University of Alberta via 87 Avenue, while others backed a 107 Avenue route, something that councillor Kim Krushell of Ward 2 is considering.

"I do have concerns about how with 87 Avenue you get the U of A option, and with the Stony Plain Road route you don't," Krushell said. "In the end, maybe I will support Stony Plain, but

so far I just feel that giving up the U of A is a big give up."

This sentiment was mirrored by the position of councillor Linda Sloan of Ward 1, who also has concerns with the proposed Stony Plain Road route.

"I haven't come to a firm decision on the line as yet, but I would say that probably the 107 and 87 would be my top two," Sloan said. "I think the 87 Avenue's strength is the connection to the University."

"I haven't come to a firm decision on the line as yet. I think the 87 Avenue route's strength is the connection to the University."

LINDA SLOAN
CITY COUNCILLOR, WARD ONE

However, some also voiced their support for the Stony Plain Road route which they say would foster development and densification along a corridor that has been neglected in the past.

"It's interesting to see who is in support and who isn't. We did have one developer [...] who spoke

for the need to densify, and that [the] LRT can really make that happen," Krushell noted.

While the proposed west-end line was the predominant topic of discussion, citizens also raised concerns about the southeast line, which would link Mill Woods to downtown. People speculated as to how it would fit with Connors Hill and Old Strathcona, issues that Sloan said she will also have to factor into her final decision.

PLEASE SEE LRT ♦ PAGE 5



PETE YEE

NOT FORGOTTEN Wreaths sit inside the Butterdome in commemoration of fallen soldiers at the U of A's annual Remembrance Day ceremony. Lieutenant Governor Norman Kwong spoke at the event on November 11.

Alberta lags behind in per capita social spending: U of A report



DANIELLE JENSON

OPEN THE WALLET McMillan's study shows provincial social spending has room for increases.

SIMON YACKULIC
News Staff

According to a new briefing document released by the Parkland Institute, Alberta's social spending is dismal when compared to other provinces — especially when Alberta's relatively privileged economic situation is taken into consideration.

U of A professor Melville McMillan compiled the data and expressed shock at the results he uncovered.

"I was surprised that [the per capita spending figures] weren't in the upper levels, that we weren't dominating other provinces in terms of spending because of so much of the media information that you hear these days," McMillan said.

McMillan went on to explain that he feels there is a common perception that Alberta, being the most wealthy province, matches this high level of wealth by high spending on social programs.

According to the study, however, this notion is deeply flawed. Over the nine years the report analyzed, Alberta's per person health expen-

ditures garnered the province an average of eighth place.

In 2007/08, the report ranked Albertan health expenditures as seventh in Canada. The Parkland Institute's fact sheet drew upon these numbers in its assessment.

"Most striking given the current cuts to health care is the fact that per capita health expenditures have been remarkably low in Alberta. Certainly, Alberta's level of per capita spending does not justify cuts to social programs," the report said.

The provincial government took issue with the study for a few reasons, according to Mike Jenkinson, a spokesperson with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development. He pointed out that Alberta would rank higher if health research spending and the relatively youthful population of Alberta were taken into account.

McMillan says the numbers he used didn't take health research spending into account for health expenditures, instead likely classifying health research spending as an education expenditure.

PLEASE SEE SPENDING ♦ PAGE 2

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Poppy culture

Find out how they celebrate Remembrance Day in Ottawa with a birds'-eye view of the ceremonies.

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Alien nation

Is George Clooney really a paranormal paratrooper? *The Men Who Stare At Goats* have an answer for you.

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The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **FENICE**, **Joanna**, **Kepler** and **Whitney**. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are *Modern Warfare 2* and ultimate frisbee.

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Female salary glass ceiling cracking: survey

KIRSTEN GORUK
News Staff

An annual survey filled out by University of Alberta Bachelor of Commerce graduates has revealed an unexpected shift in salaries, with female employees exceeding their male counterparts.

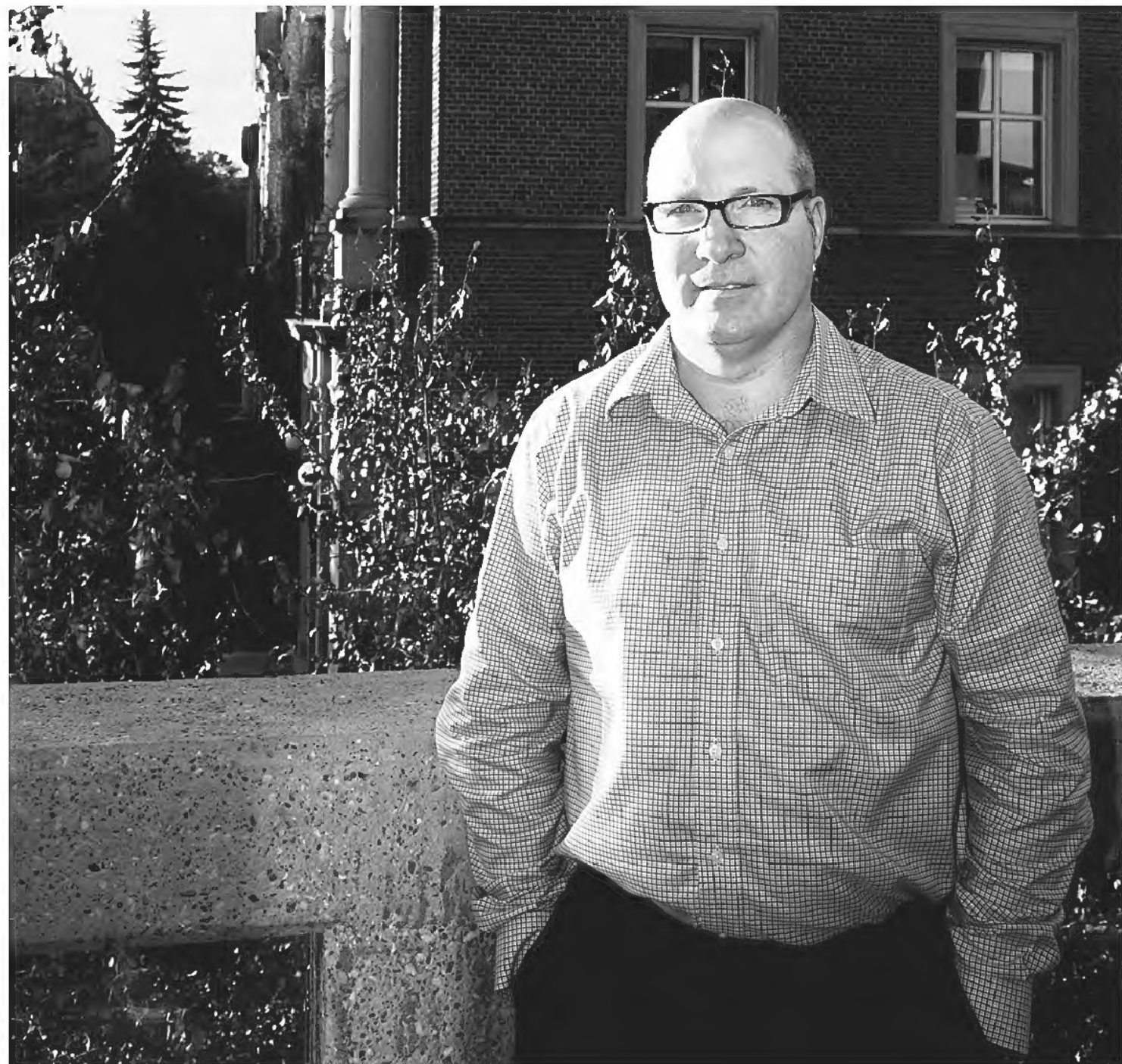
The voluntary online survey is sent out every August to the graduates of the past year, and as Dale McNeely, director of business career services and the cooperative education program explained, the information gathered is used to paint a better picture of how the students fare upon entering the working world.

"[It's used] so that we've always got a sense of where our students are going and how quickly they're getting hired right after graduation," he said.

"This was the first year that we saw [that] the salary difference between the males and the females was in favour of the females. It's always been the other way around, but it's varied between significant to not very significant," McNeely added.

Despite the change in this year's results, with females earning an average of \$43,077 per year compared to males at \$41,214, the fact remains that this is just a one-year picture. As such, McNeely is hesitant to speculate about the reasons for what could become a trend in salary gaps.

"[We need] to look at this over the long term. Is there a levelling of the playing field? That's certainly what we're hoping for [...] The degree that we're providing the students here —



PETE YEE

WARRING WAGES Dale McNeely helped run the School of Business survey.

the training, the academics, the work experience — is really creating equal opportunities for whoever enters the School of Business," he explained.

Of the 603 graduates who were contacted, the faculty received 325 responses, or about 54 per cent, which McNeely noted as being very good for a survey of this nature. The ratio of male to female respondents was fairly even, sitting at 56 per cent and 44 per cent, respectively.

Despite the precarious nature of the economy, McNeely said that the majority of the results were consistent with previous years. Although sala-

ries in general for both genders have seen a slight dip, U of A graduates continue to be employed by a range of businesses, in everything from multinational corporations to smaller, independent businesses.

As for the current female population at the School of Business, McNeely said that he believes that without putting too much stock in the numbers, the news is still good.

"It's got to give them confidence for the future, that [women] are going to be perceived in the business world as an equal commodity to everyone else."

CAMPUS
CRIME BEAT

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING

Campus Security Services are seeking student aid in identifying a suspect accused of purposefully "body checking" female students while walking through campus.

All incidences have occurred between November 2-9, near NINT and HUB Mall.

The suspect is described as clean-shaven, East Indian, wearing a black bomber jacket and dark pants, and is approximately 5-7 in height.

Premier calls
new report
insignificant

SPENDING ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As well, the provincial government cautions that more health spending may not in fact lead to better services, but may be funnelled away into wages for doctors and nurses.

Premier Ed Stelmach disregarded the study as being insignificant in influencing policy decisions.

"Debating where Alberta places in relative health-care spending is an interesting academic exercise," Stelmach explained via email to the Gateway.

"But where Alberta places on a per capita spending chart is not part of how Alberta makes its health care spending decisions."

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Sean Steels and Pete Yee

As you may be aware, yesterday was Remembrance Day.

What is your favourite part of the Remembrance Day ceremonies?

**Farah Mohamed**
Law I**Kevin Bennett**
Sciences I**Nicole Watson**
Sciences I**Dylan Handy**
Arts IV

I kind of like the poetic tributes. I like how it's a creative way of paying your respects to veterans.

I guess hearing war veterans' stories, but that won't last forever. It's nice to give them that attention while they're around.

I'm teaching about WWI and WWII at M.E. Lazerte, so I'd say being able to bring stuff into the classroom. I can show them clips from *The National* and other television shows. It helps me bring them that information.

Obviously the lack of classes. It helps me remember when I'm not in school.

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SU looks to boost election turnout

SIMON YACKULIC
News Staff

With a lacklustre 20.4 per cent voter turnout in last year's SU elections, a group of SU councillors is looking to re-engage the student body by soliciting feedback for a review of the elections bylaw.

While reviewing Bylaw 2000 (Elections, Plebiscite and Referenda Bylaw) as well as the elections bylaws of other institutions, the committee is looking to use social networking within student elections.

According to SU President Kory Mathewson, addressing the social networking question may be critical to solving the ever-present concern over student disengagement.

In 2007, 7,355 students voted. Those numbers dropped drastically in 2008, where only 4,075 voters cast their ballots. In 2009, the numbers

recovered partially with 5,703 ballots cast. While the recent numbers still appear dismal in comparison to 2007 results, Mathewson sees 20.4 per cent of the student population bothering to cast a ballot as positive.

"We've had some promising results in the last executive election, the numbers have been growing," Mathewson said.

Referring to preliminary numbers that indicated 6,742 students had taken part in the recent online student survey, Mathewson expressed optimism for the future.

"I think the numbers of this student survey really provide some motivation for the momentum going forward. Students are invested in their education at this institution and they're trying to get involved. They're pushing the boundaries — they're wanting to get involved in the Students' Union."

The elections bylaw committee

— mirroring the SU Student Survey — has posted a survey online at www.su.ualberta.ca/electionsurvey to get feedback on election reform from the student population as a whole, and in particular, students who have been involved in past elections. Mathewson hopes that if students are at least interested enough in the SU to fill out the previous online survey, they'll also be interested in answering questions dealing with bylaw reform and ultimately taking part in the democratic process to elect next year's SU.

"I think looking forward at the next election, and some of these reviews that are coming through, we could be pushing a higher voter turnout," Mathewson elaborated.

"There's a lot of social networking mediums that could be addressed, and we need to offer the opportunity to candidates to provide their informa-



PETE YEE

BRANCHING OUT President Kory Mathewson hopes an increased SU web presence will counteract student apathy.

New student evaluation could replace exams

KYLE GIBSON
News Staff

For those frustrated with impersonal, nondescript midterm marks, new testing methods may make that practice a thing of the past.

Through the University of Alberta's Centre for Research in Applied Measurement and Evaluation, Professors Jacqueline Leighton and Mark Gierl have been developing a testing method that evaluates a student's knowledge instead of giving an ambiguous test score.

The system is called cognitive diagnostic assessment, which involves designing tests based on the psychology of learning, giving more in-depth feedback to students beyond just a letter or numerical grade.

"Cognitive diagnostic assessment is not going to encompass a single test score, but a profile of scores and more importantly a profile of skills. It tends to be computer-based so that results come back within hours as opposed to days," Gierl said.

Tests designed using cognitive diagnostic assessment are built from the ground up, resulting in a test that is designed entirely with the psychology of learning in mind — something, which Leighton stated, is essential to providing insightful feedback on how much a student has learned.

Responses provided from students are inserted into a computer referred to as a neural network, where they're compared to a template created for the exam. Based on responses, it can be determined which areas a student



PETE YEE

TESTING BETTER Leighton and Gierl believe there's more to testing than marks.

possesses strong knowledge in, or where they may need improvement. This is accomplished through a system that grades each response on how it was answered, as opposed to applying a simple pass or fail method.

"If you've got a model which outlines an expectation for a response pattern base upon different skills, it's only a matter of mapping the student's response pattern onto the expected response pattern and looking for discrepancies," Gierl said.

Leighton elaborated that one of the motivating factors for developing this testing model was to help alleviate frustration associated with the testing process, especially with high profile tests such as SATs, which have a significant impact on a student's future. The diagnostic method takes an approach which evaluates what a student has actually

learned and applies it to further the learning process.

"It's well known that students can go home and do a bit of a memory dump on the test, but the next day they may forget most of what they talked about. I don't think meaningful learning is about that; it's about demonstrating that you know something and that you will know it for quite some time," Leighton explained.

While the initial cost of implementing a computer system capable of administering diagnostic tests is substantial, Gierl noted that once the infrastructure is in place, it will become much easier and productive to administer tests in this manner.

"Times are changing in many different ways and it's really important that testing start to change as well," he said.

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Albertan technology puts straw waste residue to constructive use in China

ANTONY TA
News Staff

A technology developed in Alberta transforms an agricultural waste product into part of the solution for problems such as building in earthquake zones, and sustainable resource management.

The Alberta Research Council has patented Oriented Split Straw Board, a combination of wheat straw tubes and resin being used to rebuild a school in China destroyed by earthquakes.

Wayne Wasylciw, Technical Director of the Forest Business Unit and the OSSB project lead, described the advances that OSSB presents over traditional panels.

"Straw has a natural waxy surface to it and it repels a little more water [so] it doesn't expand or swell as much. It also has better screw holding capability," he illustrated.

There are many advantages for OSSB technology in China, Wasylciw noted.

"Over 500 schools collapsed and so

many children were killed — it was such a devastating event. The company looked at it as an opportunity to promote their type of construction [since] our construction techniques are a lot more resistant to earthquakes," he said. "The structure acts almost like an elastic band — it will shake and it will move, but it doesn't collapse."

Recent changes in the Chinese economy may benefit the application of this technology elsewhere in the nation.

"China has a growing middle class, so their needs for construction materials are much greater; they also have little wood," Wasylciw said. "They do have a large amount of agricultural residues like wheat straws and rice straws and corn stalks — these sorts of things can be converted into panel products."

OSSB is much more than a construction material made from renewable raw materials — it's also an important carbon sink, the researcher added.

"Normally [Chinese farmers] burn

[straw] and this injects a lot of CO₂ into the atmosphere unnecessarily. With this type of technology, they can sequester this CO₂ inside the panel."

The ARC is trying to qualify OSSB technology for carbon credits as advised under the Clean Development Mechanism, a United Nations initiative.

"Based on the amount of straw in each panel, you can calculate how much CO₂ would be released into the atmosphere [if it were burnt]," Wasylciw said. "You're given credit for not releasing that CO₂ [and] methane."

Despite the advantages of OSSB as a construction technology, there are a few obstacles to its adoption worldwide.

"One of the tough things about using agricultural residues is trying to meet the economics of using wood because wood is so damn cheap," Wasylciw admitted. "People are looking at using the cellulose [in straw] to make ethanol to replace fuel. There's a whole series of competing technologies that may make straw too expensive to use in panels."

Wasylciw said that he believes OSSB technology may be more effective as a solution to problems caused by climate change than other technologies, such as cellulose-based ethanol. One of these problems is conservation of fresh water resources.

"When you look at making something like ethanol, you're taking straw and fermenting it with [...] water, and water is important, too, [especially] from a drinking point of view. In the case of making ethanol [...] we're trying to satisfy the hunger of [...] the same old inefficient combustion engines," he said.



PETEYEE

TO THE BEAT OF A DIFFERENT DRUM Performers play traditional Sikh instruments at Inquilab, a night of hip-hop, spoken-word poetry, and art for human rights at Dinwoodie Lounge. The performance was held on November 7.



SUPPLIED

WELL-BALANCED DESIGN OSSB panels will be used in Chinese reconstruction.



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Sesame Street has now been around for 40 years, which is pretty rad. We at the Gateway's comics and illustration section would like to point out that before they were Muppets they were sketches. Here at the Gateway we're always happy to help volunteers flesh out their ideas into something amazing. Stop by our office in SUB 3-04 on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. for our artist meetings and let the creative juices flow.

THE GATEWAY:

C is for Cookie and that's been good enough for us since 1910.

Arts career fair offers diverse options

Arts and CAPS hosted first in series of similar events throughout school year

DEREK SCHUTZ
News Staff

Financial planners and human resources officers found themselves in the company of spies and police officers as employers came together last Wednesday to let students explore job opportunities at the U of A's Arts Career Fair.

In the past, the U of A Career Centre has hosted various events to try to let Arts students know about these opportunities including career forums and a conference, but the fairs are a little different.

"The conference was more of what would be termed a career education event. There were different streamed speakers talking about [...] careers in communications, careers in government, and so forth," Amber Nicholson, a Career Development Officer with the Faculty of Arts said. "This is much more of an active recruitment event so the participants that are here are talking about jobs within their organizations."

The fair is the first of its kind put on by CAPS and the Faculty of Arts, and gave students the opportunity to see the possible careers their degree could lead to. Such an opportunity can be hard to come by, according to Nicholson.

"The difference between arts programs and some other disciplines is that some are very vocation-specific, whereas arts prepares you very broadly for a wide range of things," Nicholson said.

Joan Schiebelbein, the Director of CAPS, also noted that this is one place where engineering and the sciences differ greatly from the arts.

"An oil company's obviously going to hire engineers and chemists, but there's a whole other part to running an organization — there's human resources, there's finance, there's marketing communications, so they need people in those areas, but [people] don't think behind the scenes what is needed to run an organization," Schiebelbein said.

But this goal of educating students

on the opportunities of employment is not unique to the Arts Career Fair. Rather, it's also mirrored in the variety of career fairs that CAPS hosts.

The number of fairs offered has grown over time as employers have requested a more focused forum to connect with students.

"We were running the careers day [...] and then we added [...] health, pharmacy, and education," Schiebelbein said. "To convince the school board to come to a multidisciplinary career fair when they're really just targeting education students, it just made sense to have a separate career fair."

While the University's arts and health career fairs, along with Careers Day, have already been held, students in other disciplines still have a chance to attend other career fairs, and can participate in the Pharmacy Career Fair on November 20, the Education

Career Fair on January 18, and the Summer Job Fair on February 4.

On top of all of these, CAPS offers a variety of services directed towards students and helping them to be successful in the fairs.

"We've had some preparation activities: CAPS hosts a seminar on preparing for career forums; we did a rapid resumé review last week and a few things for students to help get ready for the event," Nicholson said.

But career fairs are not the only opportunity for students to connect with employers and professionals in a variety of fields.

"We had the director for the prairie region of [Canadian Security Intelligence Service] in last week talking about how he used his degree," Nicholson said. "We have people in these high-profile jobs coming back and talking to students about the steps they've followed to get there."



SAM ADIMORA

NOW HIRING Students take a look at possible jobs to start after their degree.

Council also hearing arguments Friday



SAM BROOKS

PARK IT City council hopes that fewer cars will be on the road once the LRT extends to all four corners of Edmonton.

LRT ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The one thing about the one southeast route that appealed to me was to use the High Level Bridge as a potential route, and then also incorporate Old Strathcona which in my mind is also a destination," Sloan said.

Another factor to be considered is how the city's geography will affect the proposed LRT routes.

"Our decisions around [the river

valley] have to be made responsibly," Sloan said. "I think there are trade-offs for sure in the equation."

Discussion will continue on Friday at City Hall where councillors will hear from those who did not get a chance to speak at Monday's meeting, as well as any new speakers that want to give their opinion.

"We still have quite a lot of speakers, plus there's more people that can register," Krushell noted.

This could mean that Council may not have time to reach a decision on Friday on whether to move forward with the proposed LRT routes, or go back to the drawing board. But according to Krushell, the importance of this decision is not to be taken lightly.

"It's a big decision that we're making here, and it's going to shape our city, and I don't want to get this decision wrong," Krushell said.

TOPWISE

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THURSDAYS | UNDERDOG



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Physicians wary of Canadian youth lifestyles' implications



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: PETE YEE

LAND OF PLENTY Easy access to junk food could have long-term consequences, physicians warn.

VALERIA NEKHIM
The Concordian

MONTREAL (CUP) — One in five Canadians aged 14 to 15 suffers from high blood pressure, and the majority of teenagers already have at least one major risk factor for developing heart disease and stroke, according to new research presented this month at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress in Edmonton.

Although Canadians are more knowledgeable today about healthful lifestyle habits, there's a discrepancy between possessing information and actually applying it, said Roland Grad, an associate professor in the department of Family Medicine at McGill University.

Grad is also a family physician, but didn't take part in the research itself.

"You might have information that Tim Hortons and McDonald's aren't very good for you, but you still eat it anyways," he said. "This leads to the rise in obesity that we're seeing, and it's the obesity that drives up the cholesterol and blood pressure."

While presenting the research findings, Toronto cardiologist Brian McCrindle said the study demonstrates the health of Canada's teens is declining at an accelerated rate.

The information stems from a study that monitored the heart health of over 20,000 ninth-grade students from Ontario's Niagara region between 2002 and 2008. During this period, the number of adolescents with risk factors for heart disease increased from 17 to 21 per cent. The ratio of obese teens and those with high cholesterol also rose. High blood pressure rates dropped to 17 per cent by 2008 — a two per cent decrease.

McCrindle cited family history, high levels of inactive behaviour, poor nutrition, and lower

socio-economic status as all having a negative effect on an individual's heart health.

Easily accessible junk food and the prevalence of video games also have a big effect on health, Grad said.

Exacerbating it is a lack of effort in Canada to recognize guidelines required for managing risk factors for heart disease and stroke amongst children despite a strong effort to do so for adults, said Charles Luc Jutras, a pediatric cardiologist and an associate professor in the department of pediatrics at McGill.

Although those in the pediatric age group may have risk factors, the complications only occur as adults, and as a result it's difficult for a pediatrician to perceive whether they should operate or intervene before the child turns 18, Jutras said.

Because pediatric doctors stop monitoring patients at age 18, they don't often get to see long-term ramifications of poor lifestyle habits.

But a doctor's responsibility to ensure a child's health only extends so far into a person's life, Grad said. He noted, for example, the medical community is aware of the obesity problem. But ultimately, decisions about what a person eats and how much they exercise are their own.

Both Grad and Jutras said governments, schools, parents, and individuals need to work together to ensure these figures decrease.

"If you make it easier for people to ride their bicycle, or if you put a soccer field in a school, if you do those kinds of things, people are going to find it easier to get more exercise," Grad said.

Though the future may look bleak, Jutras remains positive.

"There's always a pendulum effect, so now we're swinging that way, but later we may swing the other way."

'Movember' grows across world

TANNARA YELLAND
The Sheaf (University of Saskatchewan)

SASKATOON (CUP) — If you see an army of moustaches this month, just remind yourself it's for the greater good.

"Movember," as it has grown to be called, supposedly began in 2003 when a group of friends sat drinking in Melbourne, Australia, and a discussion sprang up about bringing back the glory days of the moustache. To legitimize their dubious fashion decision the men raised money for charity in conjunction with their moustache growing.

Within a few years, the month of November had been renamed Movember by the moustache enthusiasts, and it's now currently referred to as "the month that was formerly November."

Movember's official online headquarters, movember.com, describes Movember as "an annual month-long celebration of the moustache, highlighting men's health issues — specifically prostate cancer."

Matthew Eldstrom, a server at the University of Saskatchewan campus pub, said he originally decided to grow a moustache for selfish purposes but changed his motivation when he heard about Movember.

"It came about originally from talking with [my manager] Dan, and he told me it would increase my tips tenfold. So originally it was selfish. Then it ballooned into realizing November was coming up, and there's a Movember thing people do."

While Movember appears to be growing in popularity every year, with the Canadian branch

of the campaign raising four times more in 2008 than it did in 2007, some people have yet to hear about it. Eldstrom only learned about it recently from his manager.

"I always wondered if there was a guy's prostate cancer month [to mirror October's role as breast cancer month]," Eldstrom said. "But I never knew until Dan told me."

The issue of men's health is one that is often neglected for various reasons.

Movember is one part of a growing move away from the stigma surrounding public discussion of men's health. "Mo bros," as the men growing moustaches are referred to, both raise money and talk to people about prostate cancer.

Public awareness of and discussion about men's health is important to stop unnecessary casualties, especially when it comes to prostate cancer, which is "over 90 per cent curable if detected and treated in its earliest stages," according to Steve Jones, the CEO of Prostate Cancer Canada.

While only men can participate in terms of growing moustaches, women who want to get involved with Movember can round up male acquaintances to participate.

For their efforts, these women are known as "Mo sistas."

In 2008, the Canadian branch of the movement raised \$2.4 million, making it the largest charity event for men alone in Canadian history. All the money raised in Canada during the campaign is spent in Canada on raising awareness, as well as research into prevention, detection, and a cure for prostate cancer.

Icelandic McDonald's freezes over

SEBASTIAN EKLUND
The Martlet (University of Victoria)

VICTORIA (CUP) — The current global financial crisis will have at least one positive effect on health: Iceland will now be completely devoid of the golden arches.

McDonald's, one of the world's largest fast food retailers, is closing shop in the country.

All three franchised stores in the country will be closed as a result of Icelanders getting hit especially hard by the recession.

The nation of roughly 320,000 people was forced to take a \$2.1 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund and saw a significant devaluation of its currency, the Icelandic króna.

After the major banks in Reykjavik crashed, Icelanders began criticizing the right-wing government for their free market model and blame

politicians in part for the crisis. Since 2008, the recession in Iceland started pushing people towards cheaper local goods rather than spending on imported novelties.

Icelanders have since begun substituting costly meals for more traditional foods. This change in consumer choice is a reflection of the economic situation, and the effect on McDonald's is an extension of this.

As of 2007, Icelanders paid a beefy \$7.44 for the signature Big Mac burger, which made Iceland one of the world's most expensive McDonald's options.

Ingredient costs doubled over the past year for McDonald's Iceland locations. Since the chain in Iceland is not profitable, the owner of the stores, Jon Gardar Ogmundsson, is abandoning the franchise. He will be reopening under a different name with a focus on providing local products instead of the imported McDonald's fare.

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* 12 oz draft served from 5:30 - 8 p.m.



Movember gives activism a facelift

NOVEMBER IS A TIME OF MIDTERMS, IMPENDING winter, receding daylight, and of course, the moustache. For those confused with the last item in that sequence, allow me to explain. You may have noticed a sudden and disturbing increase in the number of half-baked moustaches passing you in the hallways as of late, and wondered why a facial feature now seen by many as passe makes such a strong resurgence. In the early days of the month, it began as a campus-wide influx of five o'clock shadow, and now, nearing November's halfway point, perversion levels at the University are nearing their zenith.

However, the point to all this moustache growing seems nebulous. Word of disparate charities and friendly competitions pepper most conversations on the topic. My own, foisted upon me by the raging testosterone of a resurrected office tradition, is a source of shame and pride — shame for my nose-tickler's sparsity, and pride ... well, considering the current state of my 'stache, I had to swallow a fair amount of pride to showcase it in print.

Perhaps the popularity of the tradition lies in its values. Many enter such contests having pledged to push 'stache for the good of charity. The origins of such an odd celebration of manhood — and womanhood, for those willing to let their pits and legs run wild — are murky, but its nearly undisputed home is Australia, where rumours and an old news report from the 1999 hint at the infancy of the tradition as rooted in the city of Adelaide. There a group of men, looking to raise money for an animal rights charity, began whiskering-up for their already-furry friends. It seems fitting that now the Movember Foundation, which has raised over \$45 million for male-centric charities such as prostate cancer, finds its home in Australia.

The charitable nobility of a certain few is admirable and noteworthy within the tradition, but still brings any curious enquirer no closer to solving the widespread appeal of Movember. For 30 days, a dislike for cookie-dusters that has been widely agreed upon the world over, is suspended. Isn't there a better, less self-deprecating way to raise money for charities? Our own campus, despite being filled with new moustaches, has very few events or programming dedicated to the effort.

Whether followers of Movember feel compelled to grow a moustache for charity, competition, or just to follow the herd, one element of constance seems to run through any group competing for walrus-faced glory — a complete lack of effort. True, it's never your fault should you need to shoulder the social burden of sporting a wispy, amateur moustache, but when all arguments for or against Movember fall loudly to the table, it remains that growing your hair in peculiar ways won't likely impact your day-to-day productivity.

But within that non-committal core lies another intrinsic truth to Movember, a fact that easily explains its wildfire spread from Australia to North America — accessibility and acceptance to anyone willing to let their appearance go for a month.

While the point of Movember might at times seem evasive, and while it might be conducted for different reasons, or for different charities in different places, its rise in popularity has been driven two-fold. First, by the motivation of charity, and second, by the strength of camaraderie and inclusion between both men and women.

It seems that whether Movember is held for charity, competition, or just to follow the herd, it's abundantly clear that sometimes it's not just an action, but its spirit and motivation that brings individuals together to create something seemingly pointless, and utterly worth investing ourselves in.

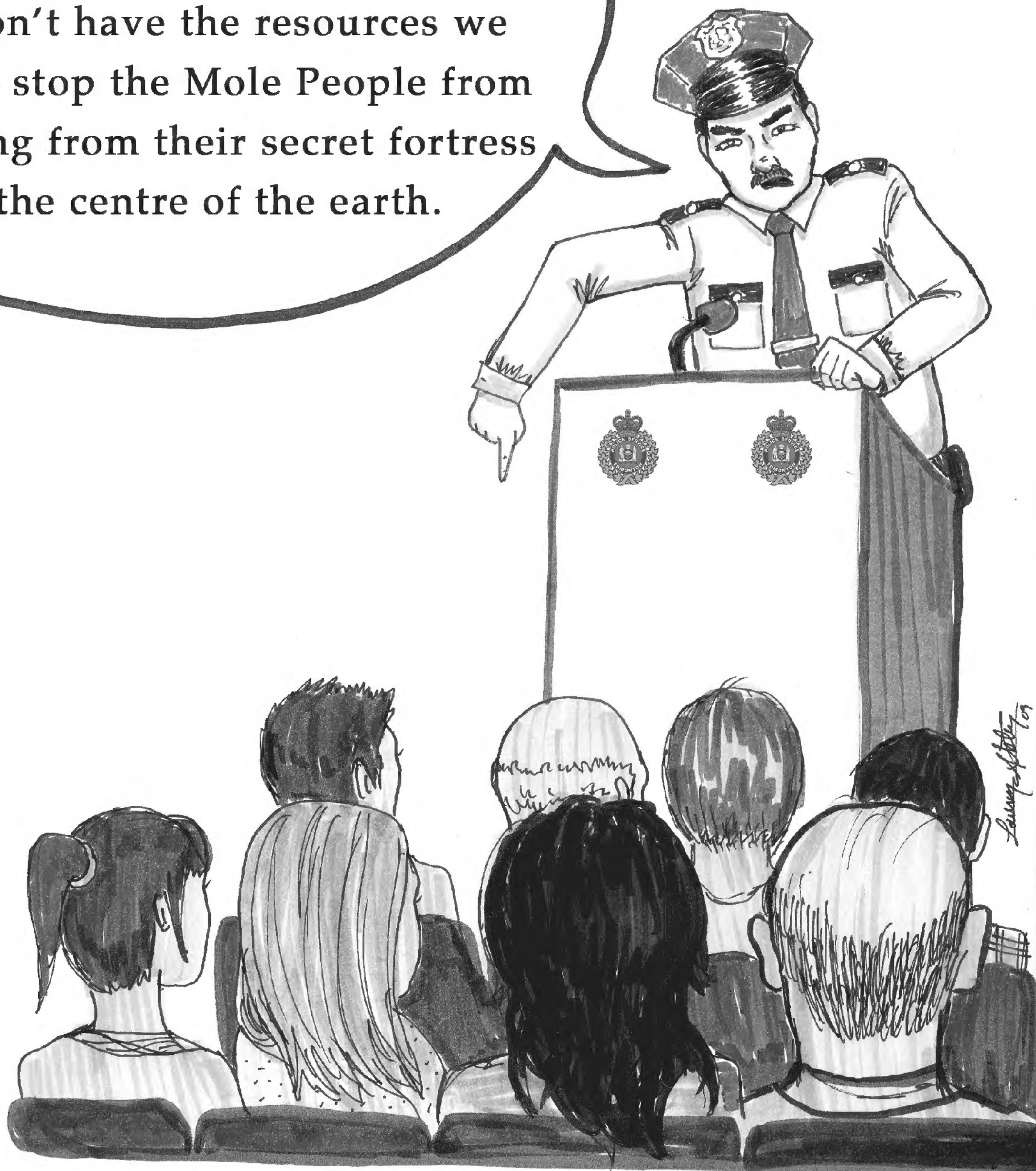
SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

Losing Lou

Dobbs leaves CNN
Southern border in danger
Stop the Mexicans!

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News Editor

And, in conclusion, if we don't get that 10 per cent salary increase, we won't have the resources we need to stop the Mole People from emerging from their secret fortress at the centre of the earth.



LAUREN ALSTON

letters TO THE eds

Gender's game

I must admit to being a little puzzled over the controversy regarding Indira Samarasekera's comments on gender disparity. The research shows that there is an imbalance between the genders in university enrolment, so it was appropriate for our president to promote advocacy of the minority group, just as it is appropriate for her to endorse greater enrollment for people of colour.

The criticisms that this advocacy is "insulting" ("Racism backlash not unwarranted" November 5) or "inappropriate" ("Poster campaign about president's comments causes controversy" November 5), and much of the general backlash, seem to assume that commenting on one problem is equivalent to forgetting our other problems — that pushing for greater enrolment by white males is the same as abandoning plans to increase enrolment by people of other minorities. This is a fallacy; I have every confidence that Samarasekera can and will

continue to endorse and implement plans to better the post secondary situation of all minorities

JOEL LONGARD
Education IV

Gender in exile

In our strive for gender equality in universities, we seem to have overshoot it a bit. Indira Samarasekera was right in encouraging young white males to university. I'm sure most white males, including myself, can attest to the difficulty in attaining scholarships relative to our racially diverse and/or female counterparts. It's funny how the only presentations I remember from high school were for WISEST or some other female-focused group.

While sitting in sociology class a few weeks ago, I was fed perhaps the most biased set of statistics I've ever seen. The lecturer essentially pointed out a direct correlation between the number of working women and a nation's GDP. Sure this correlation may be true, but were any other factors, such as population size or level of industrialization ever considered? Who knows, the one-track

feminist lecture I received certainly exuded an "all men must die" vibe. We're looking too deep into this gender/race equality thing. When do we give up and accept that we've pretty much beaten the gender/racial equality pony to death? Maybe save that little bit of life remaining for a legitimate problem.

It's about time we just encourage people to come to university. Women know they are welcome (as demonstrated by 56 per cent of our university population). It's also pretty obvious that people of all ethnicities are welcome here (just look at the nationalities of your profs and classmates). If we keep on encouraging everyone but white males to come to university, it won't take long before the University demographic bears no resemblance to the demographic of the greater Edmonton area. So let's stop encouraging certain racial/gender groups, and just promote a message of universal acceptance. In an atmosphere of universal acceptance, I'm sure individual aptitudes will prevail without prejudice.

MARCUS BEAUDRY
Mechanical Engineering IV

Speaker for the beard

Where's the option on the web poll for females who are participating in "No-Shave November"? Betcha never thought of that one, hey? Well, men are not the only ones who can grow hair you know. And while that statement can apply to beards in general, I'm really referring to legs.

CAROLINE MACDONALD
Arts V

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please) or delivered to SUB 3-04 via paper aeroplane. Website comments may occasionally be used if we don't have any flesh-and-blood letters. Figuratively speaking. Please don't send letters tattooed on the backs of corpses. We have too many of those already.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student ID number to be considered for publication.

Man Studies 101: taking a testosterone test



MIKE
CHAFE

This past week, a lifelong dream of mine came true. I am now officially an endangered species. That's right — I am a male attending university. New studies have found that the number of males attending postsecondary institutions has been declining over the past few years, making men on a university campus harder to find than that Waldo fellow, wherever he is. My guess is Brazil.

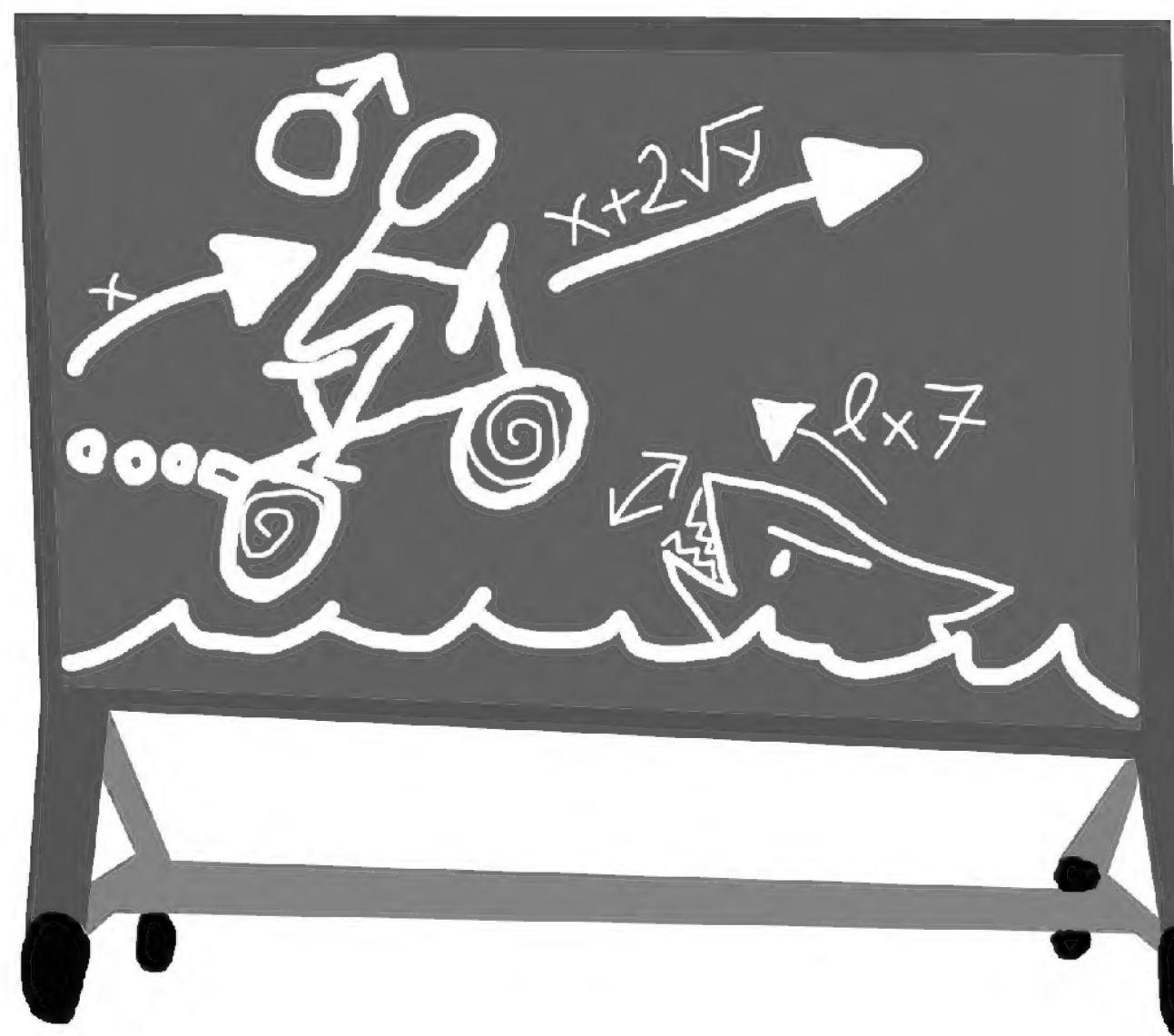
The question is, then, why this is occurring? Some argue that it's due to tough entry standards and an abundant availability of other careers. But I can't help but feel it must have something to do with solar wind patterns. Whatever the reason, be it societal, cultural, or astrological, males are in the fight of their lives if they wish to remain a prevalent force in the postsecondary world. It's kind of like that movie *King Kong vs. Godzilla*. Actually, on second thought, it's not like that at all, but that'd be pretty cool if it were.

Evidently, something must be done to stop scholarly males from going the way of the dodo. That's why I'm here to offer my services. As I'm sure you can tell from my photo, I'm about as manly as they come. First off, I can grow a wicked beard (well, sort of — it's more of a wicked neck beard.) Also, I can bench-press a whopping 124 lbs — that's the equivalent weight of two midgets or

a chubby six-year-old with a glandular problem. I also know a lot about cooking meat. That's still manly, right? It's these qualifications that will guide me in shaping a foolproof plan to increase male enrolment.

One of the biggest problems with the university setting is that the classes just don't tailor themselves to male interests. Many classes are full of boring and dreary material that just drones on and on. Men have short attention spans, and therefore need a constant eye-catching source in order to remain focused. One way to solve this dilemma would be to increase the amount of explosions in classes. It's a scientific fact that the male brain exhibits an enhanced sense of learning and understanding when viewing explosions. Trust me, I heard it from this guy who was wearing a lab coat and everything. And besides, do we really need the Fine Arts Building? I think a smouldering crater would be much more cultural, plus it would solve the campus parking problem.

Another method the University could use to increase male enrolment rates is to create courses based on male interests. The University of Alberta has a department of Women's Studies — why not initiate a department of Man Studies? Think how many men would jump at the opportunity to receive a degree, even a doctorate in manliness. The course possibilities are endless! There could be a class on the history of men where students



DAVID JOHNSTON

ALL CHALK, NO ACTION A typical Man Studies 101 word problem

would study such great male figures as Winston Churchill, Thomas Jefferson, and Mr. Clean. Other classes could teach more practical and hands-on manly skills. These might include wrestling a grizzly bear while drinking a beer, or perhaps jumping a motorcycle over a tank of flaming sharks. You know, just casual everyday occurrences.

The real solution to this problem lies, obviously, in marketing. The University simply isn't doing enough to target the male segment of the population. This is why I'm proposing my groundbreaking "free beer with every enrolment" plan. True, it's

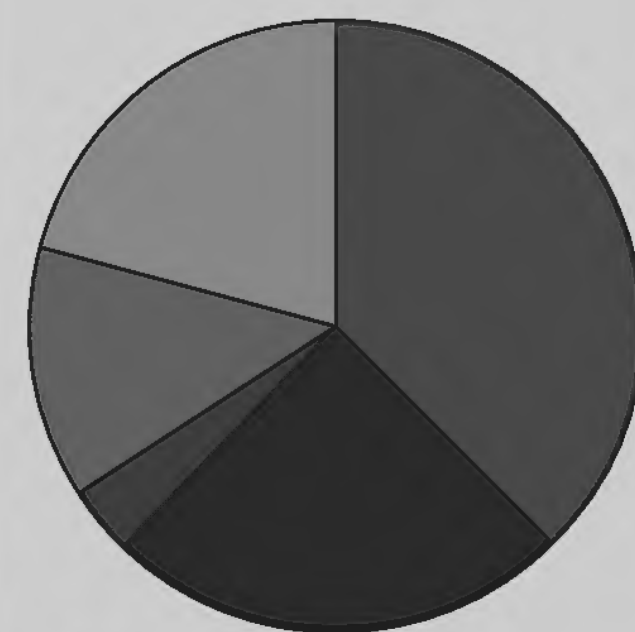
make-or-breaking this plan whether I can work in a corollary somehow involving pretzels. However, I assure you my strategy is foolproof. I have a pie chart and everything.

Unfortunately, the preservation of male students at the University of Alberta looks bleak as campus administration staff who continue to undermine my emails with such arrogant responses as "Who are you?" and "Stop emailing me, I don't even work at the University. I am a garbage man." Let me tell you something, "Tony from Waste Management" — you can't silence me, I'm the last angry man! This is why I implore men and women to write letters in support of my campaign. Or, at the very least, can someone write me a letter and tell me where Waldo is when he visits the land of the ferocious red dwarves? I'm losing sleep over that one.

It's a scientific fact that the male brain exhibits an enhanced sense of learning and understanding when viewing explosions.

readerpoll

"Are you participating in No-Shave November?"



- Absolutely. Bring on the beards! (21%)
- I'm thinking about it. Do you think I could pull off a soul patch? (13%)
- I suppose the world should see my muttonchops. (4%)
- No, I couldn't compare with the Gateway staff. (25%)
- (Females only) You're all idiots. (38%)

TOTAL RESPONSES: 53

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:
"Where do you think the next LRT expansion should connect to?"

vote online at
thegatewayonline.ca

The Gateway's moustache contest

Week 2: Double, Trouble, Toil, and Stubble



Pete Yee:
The Just Happy to be ComPETEing.

Lucas Wagner:
The Junior High Grad Date

Jon Taves:
The Cheater Cheater Pumpkin Eater

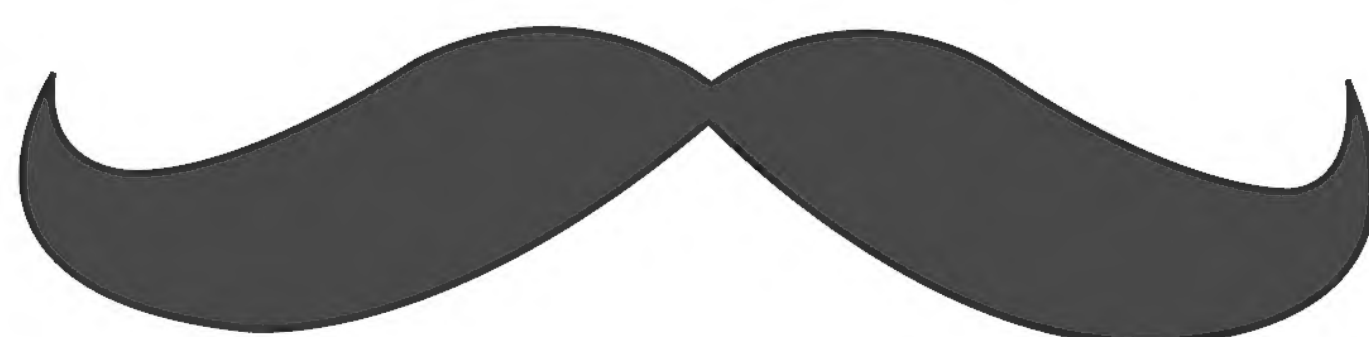
Nick Frost:
The Jedi

Sean Steels:
The Padawan

Mike Kendrick:
The Invisible Man

David Johnston:
The Perv-stache's Understudy

Vote for your favourite at
thegatewayonline.ca/moustache



Paying attention shouldn't tax me



LANCE
MUDRYK

“This isn’t some sort of give-and-take relationship — I purchased a service (your instruction), and I expect to learn something whether I’m conscious, or whether I’m crawling around the lecture hall under the influence of depressants, hallucinogens, and/or chloroform.”

I’ve been having a problem with my classes this semester. The thing is, most of them require me to *involve* myself in some form or another. I know some of you might think that this is an expected requirement, but I think they’ve taken it too far here. My Writing classes have workshop periods where I must read other students’ work and then come up with half-intelligent responses. My English classes have in-class discussions where the professor will ask me a question and I’ll have to respond on the spot. My History class has a zero sleeping tolerance, which is frustrating since it’s a night class and our prof’s voice is more soothing than a cooing dove, wrapped in a soft pillow, coated in marshmallow sauce. Poor dove. It died for that simile.

The point is, it’s exhausting to have so much demanded of me. I live a hectic life and sometimes I’d like to have a little Lance Time, where I can sit in the back corner of class and think about race cars or perhaps what it would taste like to eat laser-flavoured ice cream. In other words, where I consider important issues that concern me today.

So I don’t understand why my professors think they can tell me what to do. I’m paying them primo bucks to stand at the front of class and talk

about 19th century reader psychology, but all they want to do is turn it back on me and ask me for my two cents. You’re the guy who wrote his thesis on 19th century reader psychology; I’m just a second-year arts student who can barely fold a t-shirt. This isn’t some sort of give-and-take relationship — I purchased a service (your instruction), and I expect to learn something whether I’m conscious, or whether I’m crawling around the lecture hall under the influence of depressants, hallucinogens, and/or chloroform.

Consider this: when I go to see a magic show, I pay up front and am given a seat to watch the magician’s performance. I’m expected to laugh, be amazed, and go home without contemplating suicide. “A magic show is \$50 well spent,” I will hypothetically say before I pass out in my own hypothetical urine. There’s no university equivalent to participation in a magic show. It’s not like they ever ask people to come onstage to help with a trick. Okay, maybe that’s not true. I’ve helped with a magic trick before, but it’s not like I had to do much. The magician asked for my name and I was expected to smile and laugh at the right times, but really, all I had to do was hold an umbrella while he teleported eggs into it from

large distances. I don’t know how it worked, but I had a lot of fun and I got to keep the egg. In my English class, I don’t even get to keep the chalk. This is a problem.

Getting hands-on learning makes sense, but I don’t think it has any value in an educational institute. What do you think this is — NAIT? Save that kind of stuff for when you’re actually out in the workplace. When I turned 18, I got a job at the local liquor store and let me tell you, they didn’t expect me to know *anything*. They taught me how to work the cash register, how to crush boxes, and how to sell to minors as long as they had what looked like legitimate photo ID. Learning on the job is much more effective, because there’s the added pressure of them firing you if you don’t do the job properly.

Come on, professors! You mean well, but you make this *hard* on me, so give me a few hours a week to rest. I spend so much time outside of class making up for my not paying attention in class, that I’m really not losing anything apart from a little shut-eye. A lecture theatre may not have the most comfortable seats, but damn, there’s something very relaxing about sitting in one and listening to the white noise of European history. Maybe I’ll just close my eyes for a little bit and listen ... along ... mmm, lasers.

Sesame Street sadly stricken



TIM
SCHNEIDER

Cleansing the show seems to be just a band-aid for what ails society — which is pretty much our current *modus operandi* in North America. Forget about actually solving the problem so long as we can all pat ourselves on the back at the end of the day. The neighbourhood clean-up, while certainly a representation of our society’s values, doesn’t seem as designed as it was once intended to represent the average inner-city boulevard.

I travel through the low-income parts of Edmonton every now and then, and rarely am I greeted by smiling children happily drawing colourful chalk murals onto pristine sidewalks. While the multi-ethnic cast remains, this is now because of a requirement to meet certain equality standards on television, rather than to represent the reality of an inner-city experience, as the latter would be racial stereotyping in the eyes of modern society. I suppose it’s no coincidence that *Sesame Street* set off on this fantasy right around the time that its ratings took a dive when other fantastical children’s “educational” shows began to take centre stage.

I admit I’m astonished at what *Sesame Street* has accomplished in pursuing the 40 seasons of the edutainment cause. I believe there’s a way for me to be much more amazed — if any modern parents walked over to the TV, shut it off, and had an educational conversation with their kids. I think those kids would be a lot better off 20 years down the line. If that meant the end of *Sesame Street*, then no one can say those guys haven’t at least had a pretty good run at it up to this point — every street needs to be swept clean once in a while.

This Tuesday, *Sesame Street* celebrated their 40th anniversary as one of our foremost sources of childhood education since its inception — quite an achievement for a TV program. Almost all of us who have ever owned a television can probably recall watching *Sesame Street* at some point in our childhoods. During its 40 long years, the show has undergone some changes, though.

Originally intended as a revolutionary kids’ supplement to be focused particularly on low-income inner-city children, *Sesame Street* was a rather grimy place, and was even home to Oscar the Grouch, who literally lived in the trash. The actors on *Sesame Street* came from a variety of ethnic backgrounds, representing the typical inner-city neighbourhood.

I hadn’t watched the show since my youth, but I decided to sit down and watch the latest episode for the nostalgia and I have to admit that in the last 20 years, the show has changed quite a bit. Gone is the grime; now, Michelle Obama is teaching the kids how to plant vegetables.

This newly sanitized *Street* certainly reflects how mainstream culture has changed, but watching the show in this updated iteration, I feel like it’s lost its way. Does anyone know how to get to *Sesame Street* anymore?

THE BURLAP SACK

I’m both a drama major and a journalist, and I do my best to let the two interact as little as possible. Not because they’re incompatible or anything, but because mixing them feels like mixing strawberry jam and petroleum — while they both taste great individually, they just don’t necessarily belong together.

But occasionally my ranting platform demands that I turn on my thespian mode. Case in point: the complete lack of rehearsal space for the BA Drama students at this point in time.

I’m not going to complain about the quality of the Fine Arts Building rooms, which for the most part look like the *Before* houses on *Extreme Makeover*. I’m not even going to complain about the routine 2 a.m. lineups to book space. But the fact that we are allotted so few rooms for such an absurdly large number of projects is certainly rantable. No one has any clue what to do, short of staging a hostile takeover on the Law building, seizing valuable territory, and holding it with dance-fighting.

I feel like I’m fading away, and I’m not sure who to sack. The B.A.s and the department itself are doing everything they can short of rehearsing in washrooms, and complaining to the University is screaming into the wind at this point. So instead, I’m reserving the Sack for a performance space this week, as we can’t afford to give up such a luxurious environment.

DAVID JOHNSTON

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.



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Canadian Registered Nurse Examination

VIDEO GAME
ANTIQUITIES:
The warp star



Sometimes simplicity really is best. I mean, in video-game-dom you *could* transport yourself on a futuristic airship or a tripped-out personalized submarine or whatever, but you could just take a page from the book of Kirby, HAL Laboratories’ featureless pink puffball, and ride around on big glowing stars. Way to solve the transportation crisis, there, HAL.

We at Gateway Opinion are firmly of the belief that sometimes, you just need to forsake complications and hop on top of magic sparkly stars that mystically solve your problems. Those in agreement should ride a solar flare up to SUB 3-04 on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. to meet up with other like-minded astronomically awesome people. We can’t make everything in life better, but we can at least shorten your blast-off period.

GATEWAY OPINION
WHAT’S SO AMAZING THAT KEEPS US
STARGAZING? SINCE 1910

WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED
BY PAUL SWANSON

Lest We Break Faith

Every November 11, Canada is reminded of the history of sacrifice that has shaped our lives. Something as small as a poppy on a lapel, or as large as national tribute with thousands in attendance both symbolize this sacrifice. I was fortunate enough to witness a gathering this large and to try and document it as best I could. My hopes are that these photos will help us all to remember that this day is of utmost importance. Canadians, especially those of us who are the last generation to have grandparents who are veterans, need to ensure that the importance of this day and the history of this country is never forgotten.





social intercourse

Jezebel

Love and Other Gore CD Release Show
With Hollywood Assassyn, Polar,
and Dual Side Reflection
Special Guest Appearance from The Keyhole
Kittens Burlesque Revue
Saturday, November 14
Pawn Shop (10551-82 Ave.)
\$10 at the door

The punk rock princesses of Edmonton's Jezebel aren't showing any signs of slowing down after a summer performing on the Warped Tour's sidestage. In the past, the Ernie Ball and Kevin Says' stages have helped to launch the careers of notable scene bands like Saint Alvia, Bowling for Soup, and Throwdown. Just a few months after a busy summer, Jezebel are celebrating the release of their latest album with some local support and a special burlesque show. Fans of rockers The Donnas will be pleased to find a local band who can stand out in a male-dominated scene. To top it off, the \$10 admission price includes a free copy of the EP.

Canadian Finals Rodeo

November 11-15, times vary
Rexall Place (7424-118 Ave.)
\$18-50 at ticketmaster.ca

While we don't seem to get into the rodeo like our southern neighbours in Cowtown (their police officers even wear cowboy hats), after 36 years in Edmonton, the CFR still teams up the top athletes in the sport with the most talented stock to consistently provide an exciting show. Over six days and seven performances, the rodeo entertains thousands of fans, teaming up the top athletes in the sport with the most talented stock. Events around the city correspond with the CFR, including Larry the Cable Guy at River Cree Resort and Aaron Pritchett at Cook County Saloon. Dust off your buckle, pull on your boots and let loose a yee haw! Country is coming to the city.

Bill Cosby

Sunday, November 22 at 6 and 9 p.m.
Jubilee Auditorium (11455-87 Ave.)
\$61.65-81.65 at ticketmaster.ca

As a legendary jazz aficionado and important figure in the American civil rights movement, it may be surprising to hear that Bill Cosby also dabbles in less serious ventures. This weekend, he comes to Edmonton to perform two shows that are sure to tickle even the most serious funny bone. Rising to fame in the 1980s with the family sitcom *The Cosby Show*, he has been performing stand-up and releasing comedy albums since the 1960s. In a time when a vulgar mouthpiece like Dane Cook can sell out Rexall Place multiple times, one may wonder if Cosby remains relevant today. After obtaining some of his old recorded material, I believe that his work deserves the legendary status alongside the likes of Richard Pryor and Robin Williams, hopefully enjoyed for generations to come.

Emmylou Harris & Her Red Dirt Boys

With Buddy Miller
Thursday, November 12 at 8 p.m.
Winspear Centre (9/20-102 Ave.)
\$65 at winspearcentre.com

Emmylou Harris is a country pioneer who has worked with many artists including Steve Earle, Dolly Parton, Neil Young, Willie Nelson, and Elvis Costello. Early in her career, she worked with the man who is considered to be the pioneer of alt-country music, Gram Parsons, and has influenced people like Lucinda Williams and Sheryl Crow. For any of the hipster fans of Kings of Leon or Wilco who still aren't convinced, maybe the fact that she played a set at Bonnaroo that received reviews that overshadowed peers like Bruce Springsteen and Neko Case will pique your interest.

DUSTIN BLUMHAGEN
The future Mr. Joss Stone

Travelling at the speed of Lights

Behind her intergalactic superhero image, Lights is actually pretty humble, and a bit of a nerd



musicpreview

Lights

With *Jets Overhead*
Friday, November 13 at 7:30 p.m.
Myer Horowitz Theatre (SUB)
Sold Out

TIM SCHNEIDER
Arts & Entertainment Staff

I had the rare opportunity to sit down for a little talk time with Lights last week as she kicked off the Canadian leg of the largest tour she's headlined, starting with a performance in Vancouver. While it's not rare for her to speak with the media — she isn't shy by any means — it's certainly rare for her to be sitting down.

"Staying in one spot for too long is definitely detrimental to my powers," she quips, promising early on something special for fans in her home country. "I have some cool stuff planned for the Canadian tour [...] I gotta treat my people well," she giggles.

Originally from Canada, and having won a Juno Award for Best New Artist earlier this year at the age of 21, Lights' unusual success may be a result of her unusual upbringing. While most of us were learning that boys play with G.I. Joes and girls play with Barbies, Lights was constantly moving around, often for her parents' missionary work. She spent most of her time alone while being home schooled by her parents, not attending classes with other students until high school. She points to this reason that she became so fascinated by science fiction, comic books, and video games.

"Growing up being home schooled, I gauged my interests on the things I truly, truly loved. It wasn't based on what most girls my age were into because I just didn't know," she explains.

"I wasn't in the public system, you know? [...]"

Me and my mom just watched *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* and all the sci-fi movies we could, and I started drawing comics, and getting into comics. That evolved into video games as sort of an escapism concept.

"As I got into the public system, the social network of high school, [I] realized that those things aren't 'normal' to like for a girl, so much as a 12-year-old boy, but I kept up with it because I love it [...] there's no reason why you shouldn't do the things you love."

"Growing up being home schooled, I gauged my interests on the things I truly, truly loved. It wasn't based on what most girls my age were into because I just didn't know. I wasn't in the public system, you know?"

LIGHTS

Lights' pursuit of the things she loves has driven her to get involved in everything that she can, and she doesn't appear to be slowing down anytime soon. Already involved in making a short video segment called *Audio Quest: A Captain Lights Adventure*, and writing her own lyrics and music, she's also looking for ways to get involved with charity, working on a campaign with World Vision for the 30 Hour Famine, and wants to see if she can try her hand at video game music in the future. Not surprisingly, she's also begun working on songs and ideas for her next album, on which she's planning a departure from her spacey, electropop sound.

"[*The Listening*] is mainly digital, [but] the

next record I'll probably try something a little more organic, even try translating what might have originated as a synth part into a guitar part," she explains.

But while the music on her first full-length album, *The Listening*, is heavy on synth, reflective of the outer space influence from her childhood, the lyrics are much more down to earth, grounded in a humanity and emotion that is universal. When I point out that her upbeat pop sound is contrasted by sad lyrics, she replies:

"I describe the sentiment of my music as 'sad, but hopeful' [...] it's sad but it's true that the best songs come from the saddest moments — the moments where you're considering where you are in your life, and 'are you happy?' [...] everyone goes through those times."

Lights says she writes whenever she's feeling down and that while that's represented in the lyrics, she describes the whole process as "therapeutic."

While she's often promoted as a superhero in the media — even more so after having changed her legal name to Lights from her birth name Valerie — she doesn't make too much of it, preferring to stay grounded.

"Everybody is the same [...] you treat every single individual the same as you'd want them to treat you. I don't ever put myself up on a pedestal," she says, pointing to the fact that she spends as much of her time with her fans as possible, knowing it's important to them.

Lights certainly seems well-grounded for someone whose music videos show her constantly flying around the galaxy. She goes on to talk about how she misses her friends while touring, but is glad to be able to talk to her parents when she gets the chance, and most importantly, have her Nintendo DS to keep her company on the road. Behind her superhero persona, she's not unlike most 22-year-olds; she just wants hang out, play video games, follow her dreams, and keep doing what she loves.

A Chorus of personalities

theatrereview

A Chorus Line

Directed by Bob Avian

Starring an ensemble cast

Runs November 10-14 at 8 p.m.

Jubilee Auditorium (11455-87 Ave.)

\$71.20-102.25 at [ticketmaster.ca](https://www.ticketmaster.ca)

DAVID JOHNSTON

Opinion Editor

When the documentary *Every Little Step* rolled through town a couple months ago, detailing the casting process behind the recent Broadway revival of *A Chorus Line*, one of the things that struck me as odd was how mechanical they seemed to treat the show. The film essentially ran on the principle that as long as every cog in the machine is brilliantly made, then they will work perfectly together without practice — the show is literally nothing more than the sum of its parts.

And Broadway Across Canada toes this axiom with delicacy in their production of *Chorus Line*, currently running at the Jubilee Auditorium. The musical — examining an intense casting session for a handful of hopeful dancers auditioning for a Broadway chorus — does indeed have the potential to be completely modular. The conceit of the show is that Zach (Michael Gruber), the director, is an omniscient voice interrogating the hopefuls from the back of the auditorium. As we move down the line, we get to know each of the 17 exciting and wonderfully unique dancers.

Yeesh. Let's be frank, here — two hours is not nearly enough time to create 17 wonderfully unique personalities, 18 if you're counting Zach himself. Naturally, a handful of them have to fall into stereotypes; another handful of them have to be mostly ignored; and yet another handful of them are unsuccessful in distinguishing themselves.

However, I did quite enjoy the few that were left after all the handfuls of unmemorables were removed.

The pace was brisk enough and the show never dragged — which was indeed a problem in the audience's mind after the first interview number, where keener Mike (Clyde Alves) backflips around the stage to emote his enthusiasm, and the whole thing starts to seem like a Broadway-themed talent show. And that's the underlying problem with the concept — unless you segue the numbers together, then you'll be left with a completely disjointed final product. There's a strong sense in Bob Avian's direction to try and flow organically from moment to moment, and for the most part it works.

Let's be frank, here — two hours is not nearly enough time to create 17 wonderfully unique personalities.

Of course, there are standouts. Firecracker Diana (Rebecca Riker) delivers possibly the most nuanced performance with exquisite vocals to boot, while veteran Sheila (Emily Fletcher) and spunky Val (Mindy Dougherty) bring the funny without ever completely descending to type, which is a lovely treat. On the other hand, Paul's (Joey Dudding) seven-minute monologue near the climax doesn't resonate nearly as emotionally as Avian and company seem to think it should. It's nice, I suppose, but it's not as spontaneous as the more effective numbers from earlier in the show.

A *Chorus Line* will never be the deepest or most meaningful production; its purpose is and always has been to provide an entertaining peek into the complicated world of auditions, casting, and theatre itself. Broadway Across Canada luckily realizes that if you take enough perfectly-shaped lines, and piece them together, then you get an arc. And this chorus line thankfully is arced.

Emma-Lee leaves heartbreak behind

musicpreview

Emma-Lee

Saturday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Horizon Stage (315 Jespersen Ave.,

Spruce Grove)

\$20-25 at ticketmaster.ca

SARAH STEAD

Arts & Entertainment Editor



Nazareth told us that love hurts. Pat Benatar claimed it was a battlefield. J. Geils reminded us that occasionally, it stinks. They all sang about that four-lettered word, but the consensus was the same: heartbreak sucks — a sentiment Toronto songbird Emma-Lee was all-too-familiar with when she was writing her debut album, *Never Just a Dream*.

"When people say that I sing love songs, I kind of have to correct them because I may sing about that, but it's never about being in love," she says. "It's always about the after effects of what happens when you break up."

But fortunately or unfortunately, the end of a particularly difficult relationship was exactly the fodder Emma-Lee needed to start writing. Her blend of jazz, soul, and pop, combined with her emotional material resulted in a record that has to date garnered nearly universally positive reviews, including a mention on iTunes Canada's 2008 list of best singer-songwriters. Though she seems to be taking all of the positive attention in stride, she admits that it hasn't exactly been easy to look for romance while spending so much time on the road—but that hasn't stopped eager fans from trying to lend a matchmaking hand.

Recounting one particular show, Emma-Lee recalls that, “someone in the crowd who had maybe had a few [drinks] that night just sort of shouted really loud ‘are you single? I wanna set you up with somebody.’ ”

"It was really embarrassing, but it was really fun,

too. It's cute that the people in the audience want to help me out," she laughs.

Recently, Emma-Lee had a yellow and blue seahorse inked on her wrist, and even though she initially dismisses the tattoo as “silly” and “a reminder of not taking things too seriously,” it seems that, in a way, it might be a hint that even after surviving a broken heart, she’s still a romantic.

“The male seahorse is the one who gets pregnant [...] And the female seahorse just goes away, and comes back, and they mate for life.” She pauses. “Which is kind of interesting.”

And though Emma-Lee may not have met her own seahorse yet, she's insistent that the new album she's already writing will be taking a bit of a departure from some of the sadness on *Never Just a Dream*.

"I'm trying to get away a little bit from that stuff," she says, "but not necessarily from singing about love and love-related things. A lot on the first album came out of one specific relationship that resulted in a number of songs, but I don't feel anything for that, and I'm not inspired by that at this point. I'm just trying to broaden what I write about [and] there will definitely be some changes."

Spoken like a true romantic.

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Don't bother bother labelling Mother Mother

musicpreview

Mother Mother

With Matthew Good
Saturday, November 14 at 7 p.m.
Shaw Conference Centre
(9797 Jasper Ave.)
\$36.50 at ticketmaster.ca

MADELINE SMITH
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It can be tricky to put your finger on what exactly you're listening to when the music of Vancouver-based Mother Mother bursts through your speakers. Intricately layered vocal harmonies and quirky lyrics, coupled with everything from driving electric guitar riffs to saxophone solos and new wave synth lines, makes the band's style elusive to pin down, to say the least.

However, when asked to define the music he makes, lead singer Ryan Guldemon is hesitant to pigeonhole the band's sound into any particular category.

"Music is music, right?" he reasons. "If you stripped it down and cloaked it with different instrumentation, it would become something else, so it's not really about the different notes and melodies and frequencies that you're playing. It's about what you're playing with: the vessel in which they're travelling. I sort of perceive all music that way."

"Genre just seems like a big waste of time to toil over, or even to have formed discussions about," he continues. "It's just like, move on,



everything's been done. Rock n' roll, when it was conceived, was really exciting, but that day's over [...] It's all just a big amalgam of itself."

Despite Guldemon's dislike of the limitations of the concept of genre, he insists Mother Mother isn't just another rebellious rock band going against the musical grain.

"Breaking moulds and pushing envelopes are good," he explains. "But we don't stand with arms akimbo with the mind frame of being pioneers. We're just doing what we do naturally and trying to have fun."

Guldemon claims the band's eccentric sound isn't the result of a deliberate effort to break new ground in what he considers an "adversarial" world, but there can be little doubt that Mother Mother's unquestionably original style has played a big part

in their recent commercial success. Having already opened for the likes of Sam Roberts and Our Lady Peace, next on the list is their most high profile tour to date: a cross-country excursion with Matthew Good.

"This will be a whole other animal," Guldemon admits. "We've played larger scale clubs and bars and outdoor festivals, but not these historic 2,000-plus [capacity] theatre venues."

This move into unfamiliar territory doesn't faze Guldemon, who views the new challenges confronting the band as an important part of their own evolution. This musical progress is already very evident in the differences between Mother Mother's two albums to date.

"The [older music] was jazzier," Guldemon explains, launching into an elaborate description of the technical theory behind the band's first album, *Touch Up*. "But I find in the new music and [on our second album] *O My Heart*, there aren't as much traditional jazz elements [...] That was something we wanted to do naturally; we wanted to approach the next chapter with a sense of modernity."

Guldemon's easy command of lofty musical terminology and the authoritative way he speaks about his musical convictions make it hard to believe Mother Mother isn't on the way to creatively pioneering something, whether it's intentional or not. However, for this band, creating intriguing, appealing music is as simple as "[trying] to please your own ear."

Zemeckis sacrifices charm for suspense in latest *Christmas Carol* adaptation

filmreview

A Christmas Carol

Directed by Robert Zemeckis
Starring Jim Carrey, Gary Oldman, Cary Elwes, Colin Firth, Bob Hoskins, and Robin Wright Penn
Now Playing

JOEL RACKEL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

With over 30 previous film and television adaptations of *A Christmas Carol*, as well as the numerous ones on the stage and on radio, Disney needed some sort of fresh touch to draw a Scrooge-bombarded populous to movie theatres for their new film. Disney and writer-producer-director Robert Zemeckis figured the ticket to getting people to buy tickets was impressive animation and 3D experience, coupled with a take on the Dickens' story with more excitement and suspense than ever before. *A Christmas Carol's* animation is great, but the suspense is achieved perhaps too well.

Almost immediately, the animation and 3D literally had the crowd carolling "ooohs and aaahs" as the camera pans over a detailed Victorian London, with snowflakes popping out of the screen, and objects occasionally racing toward the viewer. Zemeckis uses this imagery of flying over or racing around London three times throughout the film, injecting more action into Dickens' story, much to general audience delight.

Also astounding are the stunning details achieved by the performance



capture animation — a crease in Scrooge's chair, the motion of soup in a bowl set on the table, and the veins and tendons visible in Scrooge's thin hands are magnificently constructed. The characterization is also impressive. Scrooge resembles himself so much throughout the different ages it looks as if he were really aging. The animation and 3D are expertly used and do the job of drawing the audience in and bringing a little something new to the story.

Zemeckis said that he thought previous adaptations of *A Christmas Carol* didn't capture the suspense and darkness of Dickens' original story. So, attempting to rectify that, Zemeckis has Scrooge spending most of the movie screaming as various ghosts terrify him or as he is flown and chased around London. Marley's ghost and the ghost of Things-Yet-To-Come are genuinely spooky and create a suspenseful experience for the audience, who is sure to be on the edge of their seat more here than at any other *Christmas Carol* adaptation. This is

not a bad thing; in fact, it's quite entertaining. However, many people like Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* for its holiday spirit, and this is sacrificed on behalf of suspense by Zemeckis.

The darkness and action injected into the ghost scenes leave out opportunities for jokes and charm seen in other adaptations. Zemeckis does not develop the adorable Tiny Tim or the selfless Bob Cratchit very well. Carrey's comedic skill is not revealed until the very end of the film, after Scrooge's transformation, and these scenes are funny, but all too brief. These directorial choices cause the heartwarming story audiences know and love to not warm our hearts as much as we thought it might.

Zemeckis' *A Christmas Carol* is cinematically and aesthetically entertaining. Animation fans and those who enjoy suspense are likely to be impressed. However, those who adore their funny, warm adaptations of the story may want to stick to old favourites to bring them their dose of holiday cheer.

Goats is gruff, but brings laughs

filmreview

The Men Who Stare at Goats

Directed by Grant Heslov
Starring George Clooney, Ewan McGregor, Jeff Bridges, and Kevin Spacey
Now Playing

IAN PHILLIPCHUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If you're one of the almost 20,000 Canadians who identify themselves as Jedi on their census forms, then your *Jesus Christ Superstar* has arrived in the form of *The Men Who Stare at Goats*, the almost-true story of the real life American First Earth Battalion. It tells the story of a group of "Jedi" trained by a specialist in the American army to be psychic warriors, their trials, tribulations, and the goats that love them.

Ewan McGregor provides the voice of (almost) sanity that this film needs as the mild-mannered reporter Bob Wilton. Bob is working for a small-town paper, and married to a beautiful woman when a chance interview connects him with one of the purported Jedi. This, along with the sudden divorce from his wife who leaves him for his editor, propels Bob into a meeting with Lyn Cassidy (George Clooney), Jedi master extraordinaire, and sets him on an adventure that will reach across the world and back.

Through the eyes and ears of Wilton and the stories of Cassidy, we are introduced to the First Earth Battalion and its leader Bill Django (Jeff Bridges). After an experience in Vietnam, Bill decides that the best way he can help the army is by training a group of psychic spies, to use the power of the mind to win wars and distract the enemy using



abilities such as the "sparkling eyes technique." This spiritual quest unites him with a platoon of soldiers including Cassidy, and a theatrical psychic named Larry Hooper, portrayed by the always-hilarious Kevin Spacey.

This wild and unbelievable story should have been fractured and confusing, but the way it's presented to the audience makes it easy to digest. Broken down into chunks surrounding the present day adventures of Lyn and Bob in a foreign and hostile country, information is revealed at almost the perfect rate. The audience is not overwhelmed by back-story, but by the end of the film, a surprisingly deep and well-connected story has been told.

Everything fits together nicely and the movie has all the telltale signs of a really well put together script, and it should — *The Men Who Stare at Goats* was on the 2006 Blacklist, a list of the best unproduced screenplays in Hollywood, and thus has excellent pedigree behind it. Even when flipping rapidly between kidnappings in the present and an army instructor

demonstrating how to lift concrete blocks with one's testicles, *The Men Who Stare at Goats* remains eminently well-written.

Writing isn't everything however, as McGregor, Clooney, and Co. fail to be anything other than consistently amusing. For a comedy film, being painfully unfunny can be a death knell, but *The Men Who Stare at Goats* also shows that being consistently funny, never hilarious, can be just as damning. An attempt is made at almost every type of humour around, from lowest common denominator to sight gags to satire, and nothing falls flat; it just fails to elicit anything more than fierce giggling.

If you're looking for the most dynamic, epic, laugh-out-loud comedy film every made, you won't find it here. What you'll find instead is a film that tells a solidly written yarn about a man, a Jedi, and their adventure together, and that's enough to make it a solid film. It's a sad state of affairs when a film can be classified as good because it fails to disappoint, but that's the nature of modern cinema.

Aaron Levin shares his Wyrd-ness

musicpreview

Wyrd Fest

Featuring *Peace*, *Shearing Pinx*, *GOBBLE GOBBLE*, *AHNA*, *Myelin Sheaths*, *Moby Dicks*, *The Famines*, *Friendo*, *Grown-Ups*, *Ex-Boyfriends*, *Feral Children*, *Outdoor Miners*, *The Wicked Awesomes!*, *Krang*, *JAZZ*, *Test Patterns*, and others
Saturday, November 14 at 5 p.m.
Cosmopolitan Music Society
(8426 Gateway Blvd.)
\$15 at Blackbyrd Myoozik. All ages.

NAOMI WILLIAMS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's not long into my conversation with Aaron Levin that I realize he's got his fingers in a lot of musical pies. In addition to producing Wyrd Fest, Edmonton's first and only fringe music festival, Levin has his own band (JAZZ), collects and deals in used records, and runs the website *Weird Canada*. But despite these numerous musical projects, Levin has consistently found himself attracted to music that might best be described as, well, weird.

"I have been dealing used records for a long time," Levin shares. "I had spent all these years buying weird independent records from the '60s, '70s, '80s. There seemed to be more independent, weird records than regular major label records, more irrational records than rational records."

As a former Music Director for CJSR, Levin was exposed to and revelled over new, never-heard local sound. This spawned his enthusiasm for the creation of his fringe-music blog, *Weird Canada*.

"I discovered in every city there is a lot of amazing CDs pushing the boundaries, fresh sounding, interesting, and weird," Levin embellishes. "But there is no national institution of memory for [independent music]."

"I am more into discovering music than I am music."

AARON LEVIN
PRODUCER OF WYRD FEST

It was in this discovery that Levin decided to start blogging about music he would find, and music that he thought sounded and looked great.

"A lot of the bands that I write about and that I cherish, they really have the attitude to express themselves at any cost," Levin evenly phrases. "And sometimes that cost is almost everything."

As he continues to talk music — every word breathing records — I begin to see how he views experimental records as a site of discovery, a rare artifact, unlike anything that has been or will ever be. Levin's record label, Cantor, is named after German mathematician Georg Cantor, who proved

that there were more real than natural numbers — a concept Levin thought was also relevant to records.

Levin relishes in this irrational, infinite abyss of experiential music that can be journeyed through and found by just taking a jump.

"I am more into discovering music than I am music. I wanna hear a new sound," Levin says.

Levin tags different musicians' sounds as "burnt puke," "8-bit fluorescent glitch-pop," and "Women-meets-Puberty-meets-'90s." He describes his expression in comparison to the jangle, fun, and mystery of early '80s British group, The Homosexuals.

"They are really how I live my life. Unfettered expression. They didn't care about how it sounded they just wanted to capture it," Levin lavishes. "You catch what they're trying to do within the sort of mess that is their recordings, then you can really hear how magical and beautiful it really is."

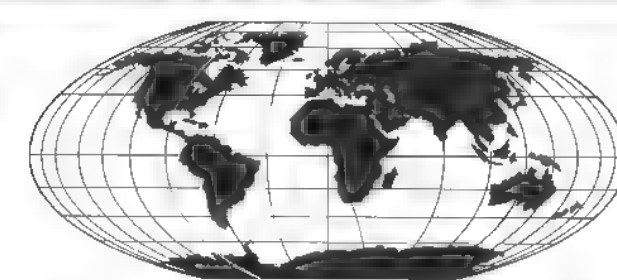
Wyrd Fest became Levin's plan to attract people beyond just the individual scenes associated with separate bands. Wyrd Fest features 16 bands outside genre norms, and a banging venue with a two-stage set-up that hopes to relinquish the answer to people experiencing a new musical discovery.

"Wyrd fest is the musical manifestation of the website," Levin explains. "Why I think the Festival is such a good idea is because, if you make it cheap enough [and] big enough, people can say to themselves, maybe I will check that out."

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SOL KAUFFMAN/THE MARTLET

SILVER SUCCESS For the second consecutive season, Pandas field hockey claimed silver at Nationals.

Pandas cap off season with silver at field hockey nationals

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

Underdogs for the second-straight season in a row heading into the national tournament, the Pandas field hockey squad proved once again that they're among the elite, as they claimed their second consecutive CIS silver medal. Despite dropping their first two matches each by a lone goal to the UBC Thunderbirds and the Toronto Varsity Blues, the Pandas showed their resolve as they headed into the final day of round robin play in need of two wins.

The Pandas didn't disappoint Saturday, coming up with those two wins they so desperately needed, both in 2-1 games, first against the host Victoria Vikes and then against the top-seeded team in the tournament, the Guelph Gryphons.

"Our girls knew we had a job to do if we wanted to make it to the final — they rose to the occasion and we were super excited. We definitely were very pumped for the next day, although very tired since we did just play two hard games in one day," head coach A.J. Facendi explained.

With only hours to rest and get ready for the championship match Sunday against UBC, the Pandas were at a distinct disadvantage going up against a T-Birds team that had played only a lone game Saturday afternoon.

"We had the same schedule last year. This

is something we knew that would probably happen. As much as you're excited to play and very eager to get a good result in that last game, it was just very evident that we were tired," Facendi explained.

UBC would prove too much for the Pandas on championship Sunday, as the T-Birds claimed their record 12th national title in a 6-0 win.

For the Pandas it was a strong end to the season after finishing third in the Canada West regular season standings. The weekend was the last in a Pandas uniform for a pair of fifth-year players — Bunny Hughes and Jen Foster who both move on from the program after strong careers at the U of A.

For Facendi, who served as head coach the past season on an interim basis for Carla Duncan, who's been on maternity leave, the season was a great learning experience in her first year at the helm of the program.

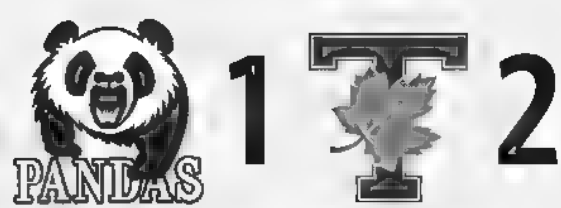
"It was a good season. It was tough because we were young, so it's hard to know what to expect from a young team. I am very happy with our finish. Of course our goal is always to win gold, but I think for the age of our team, we did very well."

Facendi's future role with the program remains unsettled, but after being an assistant for the three previous years, expect her to remain with the Pandas moving forward.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5
Alberta (5) vs. UBC (2)



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Alberta (5) vs. Toronto (4)



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7
Alberta (5) vs. Victoria (3)



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7
Alberta (5) vs. Guelph (1)



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7
Championship final
Alberta (5) vs. UBC (2)



Soccer squads end seasons with medals at Canada West finals

Bears claim silver medal after a loss to Victoria in penalty kicks | Pandas finish third with their first win over Victoria of the season

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

Penalty kicks were all that stood between a trip home and a trip to the national tournament for the Golden Bears soccer squad this past weekend. The Bears met up with the Victoria Vikes in the Canada West championship game with a ticket to nationals on the line, and penalty kicks needed to determine a winner.

Alberta came up on the short end of those kicks as Victoria claimed the conference title and a trip to Langley, B.C. for the national tournament this coming weekend.

After defeating the top-ranked team in the conference, the UBC Thunderbirds, Friday night in a tight 1-0 game, the Bears went into the conference final looking to knock off the Vikes and secure their first berth to nationals since the Green and Gold hosted the tournament in 2006.

The Bears found themselves down 2-0 to Victoria in the second half before Milan Timotijevic and Kevin Perry found the back of the net to even the score, forcing the game into extra time. After nothing was resolved in the frame, the teams would need penalty kicks to crown the conference champion. Victoria was able to convert on all four of their penalty kick chances, while the Bears went two-for-four, coming up just short of claiming the Canada West title.

"Unfortunately, the penalties didn't work out in our favour; sometimes they do, sometimes they don't," Bears head coach Len Vickery said.

Despite the disappointment of being so close to securing a berth to the national championship, the season proved to be a successful one for a very young squad.

"We always knew it was going to be tough, because we don't have the number of fourth- and fifth-year players that can really lay the foundation



MEDAL HAUL Both the Bears and Pandas saw their hopes for a berth to nationals dashed in tight one-goal games this past weekend in Canada West playoff action, both against powerful B.C. teams.

for a strong season," Vickery explained. "Having said that, we know the quality of the players that came in not only this year, but those who came to the program last year."

With the large number of first- and second-year players on the roster, the Bears relied heavily on a core group of veterans including Cam Black, who played his final game in the Green and Gold this past weekend, to lead the squad.

"The one fifth-year player Cam Black and our fourth-year players Matt Strelow and Harman Braich, they were able to give us a good foundation and allow our younger players to find their way in Canada West."

With the split on the weekend, the Bears finished the season with an overall record of 10-4-4 as they now look forward to the 2010 season after seeing the youth movement on the roster gain valuable experience in '09.



CLAUDINE CHAMPION/AARON YEO

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

After a fourth-place finish in the regular season, the Pandas soccer squad headed to Langley, B.C. this past weekend for the Canada West playoffs, claiming a bronze medal finish with a 3-1 win over Victoria. In the semi-finals, the Pandas were given the difficult task of facing one of the best teams in the nation, the Trinity Western Spartans.

Led by the Canada West Player of the Year Nikki Wright, the Spartans outlasted the Pandas with a 3-2 extra time win. Alberta played the Spartans tight all game, and went into the half tied at 1-1, which held up over regulation. The Pandas suffered a key loss in the 69th minute when Shalla Kadima received her second yellow card of the match, and got shown the red card putting the Pandas down a player for the remainder of the game.

Heading into the game, Wright was on the Pandas' radar as they looked to shut down the conference's top player. While the Green and Gold managed to accomplish this for the majority of the game, the task proved to be too tall of an order after Kadima's red card.

"We did focus on Nikki and looking to minimize her touches on the ball through some man-marking. Through the first 70 minutes we were playing 11 vs. 11, that's what we did; but when we went down, you can't really play man-to-man when your down a man," head coach Liz Jepsen explained.

Being down a player proved to be the difference in the match as the Pandas could only keep the Spartans at bay so long. TWU managed a pair of extra time goals to the Pandas lone goal in the extra frame to hand Alberta the 3-2 loss.

"I recognized right off the bat that the legs were going to be taxed given that we had already played 20 minutes short-handed," Jepsen explained.

Despite the loss Friday night against TWU, the Pandas managed to bounce back Saturday afternoon against the Victoria Vikes and secure a 3-1 win to claim Canada West bronze.

"As a coach, a bronze-medal finish in the Canada West is very reputable, so within the program, we clearly see the importance of the game. Of course a bronze-medal game is hard to play especially when you play a team [in TWU] that's been ranked number-one or number-two all season long to overtime, so we were very proud of the response the girls had to that game."

The weekend was the final action for a trio of fifth-year players Veronique Mayer, Lindsay Stewart, and Jackie Smith, who will all move on from the program.

"I'll be sorry to see the likes of Veronique Mayer, Lindsay Stewart, and Jackie Smith leave because I think they're irreplaceable, but I feel were in a good place."

Pandas hockey continue season-long home stand

EMERSON CSORBA
Sports Staff

Winners of 10 consecutive games to open the season, Howie Draper's Pandas hockey squad keeps chugging along. This past weekend's 8-0 and 3-2 victories over UBC mean that the Pandas now sit seven points clear of second-place Saskatchewan in the Canada West standings.

Getting to at 10-0-0, however, is by no means a simple task. For Draper, the past weekend against UBC revealed areas for improvement.

"I don't think we quite played the six periods of hockey we were striving for on a regular basis. We got up against a team with tremendous potential that is very young and they decided to turn it up," Draper stated.

This weekend, the Pandas play host to the Lethbridge Pronghorns, who sit at 3-3 on the regular season, which places them around the middle of the pack in Canada West. The 'Horns and Pandas have yet to square off in 2009, so the upcoming two-game series should be an interesting one between these two sides.

"They're a different team than they were last year when they were relatively young. Based on their results, they seem stronger than in past years. Just like UBC, they should be a quick team. We're mentally prepared to play them."

The visiting 'Horns may lack the Pandas'



PETE YEE

PERFECT START The Puck Pandas enter the weekend with a 10-0-0 record.

offensive firepower, but they are a solid team from top to bottom. Lethbridge boasts two steady shot-stoppers between the pipes. Both Ashley Kavanagh and Kailey McMaster have save-percentages over .900 on the season.

Draper's Pandas enter Friday's contest at Clare Drake on a torrid offensive pace. Tarin Podloski is leading Canada West in scoring with 21 points, while Leah Copeland and Alana Cabana have 16 and 13 respectively. Solving Dana Vinge and Michala Jeffries will also pose a difficult task for Lethbridge. Combined, the

two netminders post a 10-0 record, and have amassed four shutouts.

The goal for the upcoming home games is simple for coach Draper.

"Our goal for every weekend is to get better. Win or lose it's important that we improve at the little things. For us, it's things like being more responsible in the defensive zone, not trying to beat people one-on-one," Draper said.

The Pandas will be out to maintain their winning streak this Friday and Saturday as they take to the ice at 7 p.m. both nights at Clare Drake Arena.

Gridiron Bears fall to Dinos in CW semi-final

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

It wasn't the end to the season the football Bears were hoping for, nor did they get start they were looking for in their Canada West semi this past weekend against the Calgary Dinos in the Stampede City.

When the dust settled after the first 2:05, it was already 15-0 Calgary and the Bears found themselves well behind the number-one offensive team in the CIS.

The Golden Bears were never able to muster enough offence to threaten the number-two ranked Dinos, who went on to a 45-13 victory to setup a Canada West final between themselves and the number-three ranked Saskatchewan Huskies this coming weekend in Saskatoon.

For the Bears, it was the end of a roller-coaster ride season that saw everything from a 27-7 win at home against the then number-three ranked Huskies, to a final three games that saw the Bears outscored 124-21 by their opponents, yet making it back to the postseason for the first time in three seasons.

The Green and Gold finish the season with an overall record of 4-6 after the playoff loss to the Dinos.



PETE YEE

CONFERENCE ALL-STARS

Three Bears were named Canada West All-Stars for their excellent individual efforts this season.

Guard Terriss Paliwoda is the lone Bear to be named to the offensive side of the ball after playing a major part of an offensive line that gave up only three sacks on the season — tops in the conference.

On the defensive side of the ball, second-year Bears end Craig Gerbrandt

led the nation in sacks with 10 to earn the all-star nod.

The Bears special teams leader all season long was Hugh O'Neill who handled all the kicking duties for the Green and Gold, but excelled in punting as he led the nation in punt average at 41.9 yards per punt, as he earned the unanimous selection as the conference's all-star punter.

SFU quarterback drowns in campus pool

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor



Simon Fraser Clan quarterback Bernd Dittrich died early

Wednesday morning after losing consciousness in the university's swimming pool on Tuesday evening.

SFU officials confirmed that Dittrich, a 21-year-old Science student, died in hospital after lifeguards had found him in the pool Tuesday evening at approximately 5:45 p.m.

Police remain uncertain about the

circumstances leading to the death of Dittrich, but did say foul play is not suspected.

Burnaby RCMP said that, as of Wednesday, they had wrapped up their investigation.

As a native of Austria, Dittrich moved to Heavener, Oklahoma at the age of 17 for his senior year of high school to pursue his dream of playing American football.

Dittrich was recruited by SFU offensive co-ordinator Shawn Olson who coached Dittrich for five seasons in Europe with the Vienna

Vikings — a Vienna, Austria based club team.

After being named starting quarterback for the Clan to start the 2008 season, Dittrich led Simon Fraser to their first win in three seasons as he guided the team to a 24-10 win over their archrivals from UBC.

Dittrich saw limited action in 2009, playing in six games after being plagued by shoulder injuries.

A quarterback and linebacker in high school, Dittrich suited up for 24 career games with the Clan in three seasons.

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THIS WEEK'S SPORTS FLOP



We hate to do this to you, Argonauts fans (if you still exist), but you're making your second woeful appearance in the Sports Flop of the Week. Montreal kindly put the Argos out of their misery this past Saturday, handing the Boatmen their 15th loss of the season while the Als picked up their 15th win in the 42-17 Montreal romp. The Argos may be looking for some new personnel after this season, and rumour has it they're considering starting a *Gateway* sports volunteer next year at quarterback.

The catch? You have to come to a sports meeting every Thursday in SUB 3-04 at 4 p.m.

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Cross-country team ready for nationals

NATHAN LIEWICKI
Sports Staff

The U of A cross-country team will be at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario this Saturday for the 2009 CIS national championship.

Both teams head into nationals having only competed in three events — the Huskie Open, the Dino Open, and the team's home race at Hawrelak Park, the Stewart Cup — yet head coach Georgette Reed believes that her teams will be ready to go on Saturday.

The squads were also scheduled to compete in Winnipeg at the Bison Open in mid-October; however, with the rise of the H1N1 pandemic and the pressures of midterm exams, Reed decided it was in the best interest of the athletes to rest up ahead of both the Stewart Cup and nationals.

"Competitively, it looks like we haven't done a whole lot, but we've been really strong with the training, and the results from Stewart Cup are quite positive, and we're looking to get results at nationals," Reed said.

The Bears will be led by Jamie Weikum, who'll be competing in his third consecutive national championship, as well as a formidable contingent which includes Harry Moore, Cody Carver, Joel Lauzon, Graeme Law, Jaden Ostapowich, and Max Leboeuf.

"Jamie is a veteran and he has improved every year. He's definitely going to be one of our strong leaders out there, but we have some young guys — Ostapowich and Leboeuf — who, if they run up to their potential, can give us three scores near the top," Reed noted.

The Pandas are fresh off their victory at the Stewart Cup, and the seven-



CLAUDINE CHAMPION

CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT The Bears and Pandas cross-country runners travel to Kingston this weekend on the shores of Lake Ontario for nationals.

woman team headed to Kingston includes Lindsay Acheson, Hayley Degaust, Danika Medinski, Alana Soderberg, Cassandra Tomas, Joelle Stenger, and Natalia Szykarczuk.

"This year we have seven strong athletes on each side that made our qualifying standards, and since [the] Stewart Cup everybody has been really focused," Reed remarked.

The course at Queen's is expected to be a fast one and the athletes shouldn't have troubles adjusting to it during their practice trials.

"[Queen's] is one of those courses that's set up to race fast and we knew that," Reed explained. "We prepared our Stewart Cup [course] to make sure it mimicked a little bit of what the athletes would expect at nationals."

Ranked ninth in the country on both the men's and women's sides, the

Bears and Pandas won't be amongst the favourites to medal, but winning the overall team aggregate at the Stewart Cup means that the runners are heading into nationals with confidence.

"We tell the athletes be prepared to do whatever it takes to race their very best on the race day," Reed said. "If we can score under 100 points for both of our teams then we have a real shot at the medals."

In fact, the last two times cross-country nationals were held in Ontario in 2002 and 2004, the Alberta men took home bronze medals.

Coach Reed is hopeful that this pattern repeats itself and will include the Pandas this time around.

"We're hoping that a return to another Ontario course will result in the first podium appearance of many to come."

sportsshots

Compiled by Matt Pretty
and Evan Daum

Bears Basketball

The Basket-Bears continued their hot start with a pair of wins over the Winnipeg Wesmen last weekend. The Bears picked up wins of 74-56 Friday and 71-68 Saturday. The Bears move to 4-0 on the season, while the winless Wesmen drop to 0-4. Alberta will stay on the road this weekend as they visit Victoria and UBC.

Pandas Basketball

The basketball Pandas split their series with the Wesmen at Winnipeg this past weekend with a 77-40 win Friday and a 64-58 loss Saturday — their first loss of the season. Alberta's record now stands at 3-1, while Winnipeg is 2-2. This weekend, the Pandas head to the coast to face the Vikes and T-Birds.

Bears Hockey

The puck Bears matched their basketball brethren with a road series sweep. Alberta defeated the UBC Thunderbirds twice this past weekend, starting with a 6-2 victory on Friday night. On Saturday, the Bears went three better, as they beat UBC 8-1. Alberta will stay on the road this weekend as they head down to Lethbridge for a pair of games against the Pronghorns.

Bears Volleyball

The Bears volleyball team headed to Winnipeg this past weekend for a series against the Wesmen and came out with a split as the Wesmen handed the Bears their second loss of the season Friday night in a 3-2 decision. Alberta bounced back Saturday night to pick up the series split in a 3-1 win.

The loss dropped the Bears to third in the CIS rankings — the first time in 36 polls the Bears haven't held down the number-one spot. The Bears have a bye this weekend.

Pandas Volleyball

The volleyball Pandas split their weekend series in Winnipeg. Alberta won in straight sets Friday night, but then dropped a 3-1 decision Saturday night. With the split the Pandas record sits at 5-1 in conference play. Like the Bears, the Pandas fell two spots in the national rankings from third to fifth after the loss in Winnipeg. The Pandas now head out on the road for the next three weekends to end the first half of their '09/10. Simon Fraser is first up for the Pandas, as they play the Clan in Burnaby this weekend.

Wrestling

Bears wrestling notched a trio of podium finishes at the Hargobind International in Surrey this past weekend. James Yurick finished second in the 78 kg class, while Addison Bree and Tyson Frost came in third in the 90 kg and 120 kg classes respectively. For the Pandas, Ali Bernard finished second in the 72 kg class.

Swimming

The U of A swim team travelled to Calgary this past weekend to compete Friday night against UBC and Calgary and then in the Cascade Slingshot Invitational Saturday. Combined, the Pandas and Bears team finished third overall behind the U of C Dinos and the Cascade Swim Club in the Slingshot event. The Green and Gold captured 11 individual medals, including two from Kayla Voytechek who picked up silver medals in the 50 m, and 100 m breast behind world record holder and former U of A swimmer Annamay Pierse.

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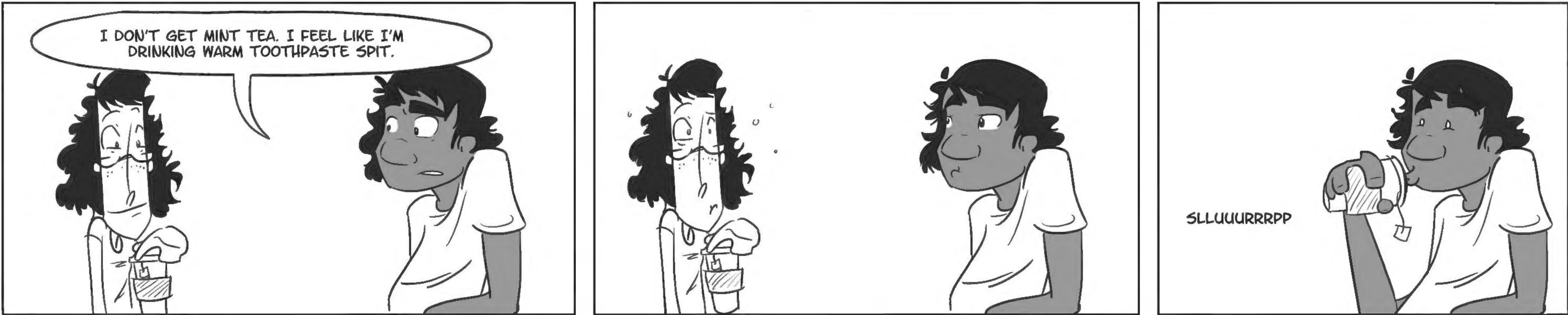


"I develop the inspiration in my mind and visualize various scenes before proceeding further with the idea or rejecting it."
— Julia Fullerton-Batten

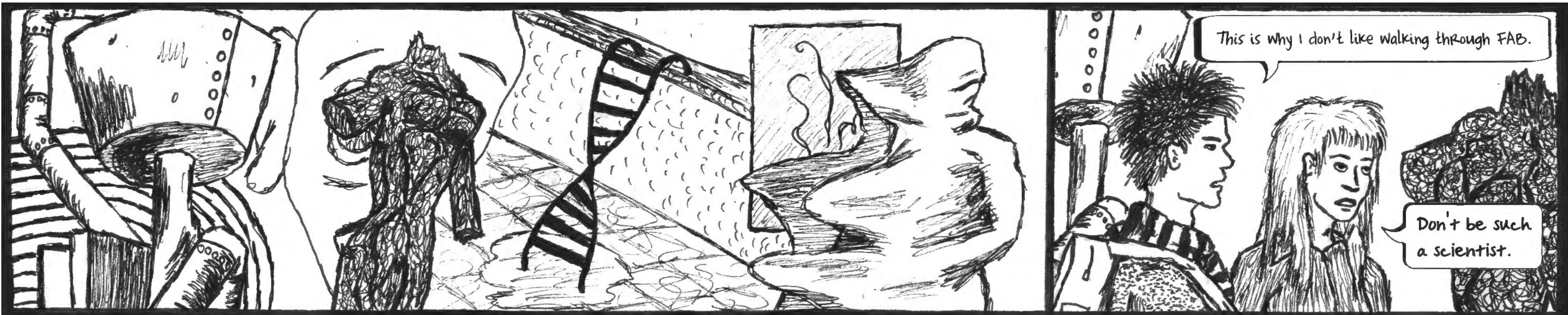
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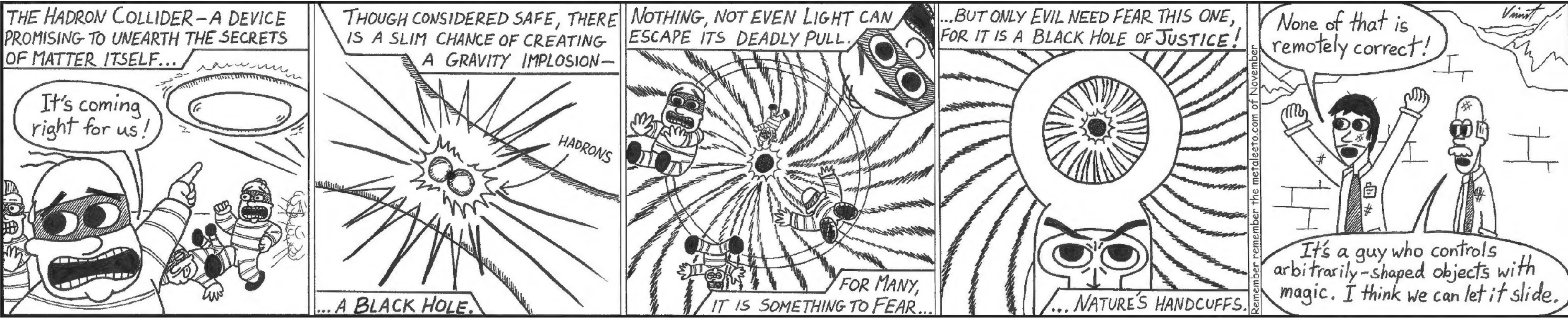
PEOPLE WATCHING by Faye Campbell



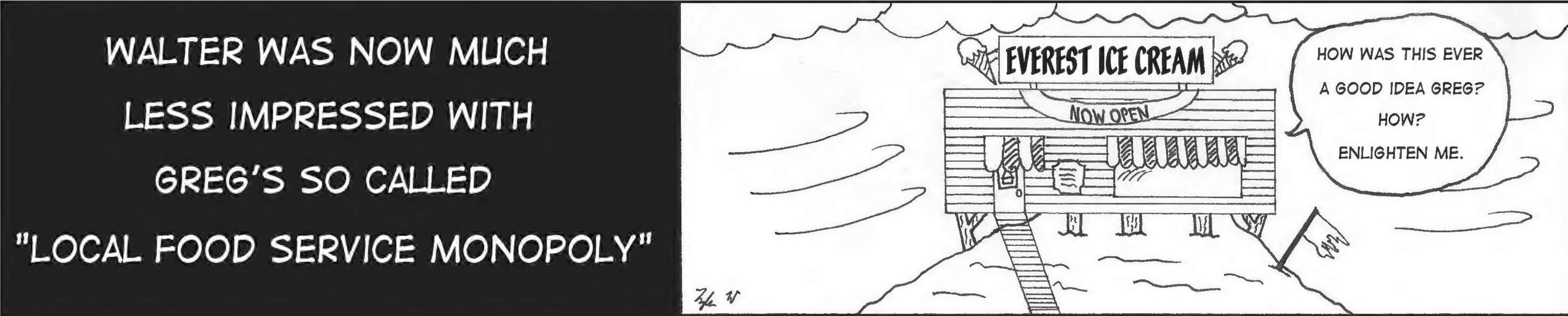
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Campus Mental Health Awareness Week is

here! Show your support for student mental health awareness by wearing a gray ribbon. Look for information tables on the second floor of the Katz building on Nov. 16th 2009, or in the Education building main floor cafeteria on Nov. 17th 2009. You are welcome to drop by and pick up a gray ribbon, or learn more about mental health. We look forward

to seeing you there!

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AND FINALLY

Despite the fact that Wednesday was a statutory holiday, quite a few interlopers decided to visit the third floor for the purpose of trying to get to Room at the Top (which was closed). I don't get these people; do they think that the SU just decided to move RATT down four floors? (Not a bad idea, though.)

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PETEYEE

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